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SIR, *Sheffield, May* 18.

I Flatter myſelf, that you will think the following copy of a letter from Mr Raikes of Glouceſter, on his new and excellent ſcheme of Sunday-ſchools, well worth preſerving. The importance of the ſubject, and the benevolent manner in which it is expreſſed, juſtly intitle it to the attentive regard of every virtuous man. It is one very direct means to bring about that reformation of manners which is ſo much wanted at preſent; conſequently is worthy the eſpecial notice of our clergy and magiſtrates. I have the pleaſure to add, that, by a paragraph in the York Chronicle of the 6th inſt. it appears, that the inhabitants of Leeds have, very much to their honour, adopted the plan, and have already 1800 children engaged.—The towns of Huddersfield and Dewſbury are likewiſe endeavouring to follow ſo meritorious an example. Yours, &c. &c.

Gent. Mag. A FRIEND TO VIRTUE.

SIR, *Glouceſter, Nov.* 25.

MY friend, the mayor, has juſt communicated to me the letter which you have honoured him with, inquiring into the nature of the Sunday-ſchools. The beginning of this ſcheme was entirely owing to accident. Some buſineſs leading me one morning into the ſuburbs of the city, where the loweſt of the people (who are principally employed in the pin-manufactory) chiefly reſide, I was ſtruck with concern at ſeeing a groupe of children, wretchedly [illegible]ged, at play in the ſtreet.

ſtreet. I aſked an inhabitant whether thoſe children belonged to that part of the town, and lamented their miſery and idleneſs.—Ah! Sir, ſaid the woman to whom I was ſpeaking, could you take a view of this part of the town on a Sunday, you would be ſhocked indeed; for then the ſtreet is filled with multitudes of theſe wretches, who, releaſed on that day from employment, ſpend their time in noiſe and riot, playing at chuck, and curſing and ſwearing in a manner ſo horrid, as to convey to any ſerious mind an idea of hell, rather than any other place. We have a worthy clergyman, ſaid ſhe, curate of our pariſh, who has put ſome of them to ſchool; but upon the Sabbath, they are all given up to follow their inclinations without reſtraint, as their parents, totally abandoned themſelves, have no idea of inſtilling into the minds of their children principles to which they themſelves are entire ſtrangers.

This converſation ſuggeſted to me, that it would be at leaſt a harmleſs attempt, if it were productive of no good, ſhould ſome little plan be formed to check this deplorable profanation of the Sabbath. I then inquired of the woman, if there were any decent well-diſpoſed women in the neighbourhood, who kept ſchools for teaching to read. I preſently was directed to four: to theſe I applied, and made an agreement with them, to receive as many children as I ſhould ſend upon the Sunday, whom they were to inſtruct in reading, and in the church-catechiſm.—For this I engaged to pay them each a ſhilling for their day's employment. The women ſeemed pleaſed with the propoſal. I then waited on the clergyman before mentioned, and imparted to him my plan: he was ſo much ſatisfied with the idea, that he engaged to lend his aſſiſtance, by going round to the ſchools on a Sunday afternoon, to examine the progreſs that was made, and to enforce order and decorum among ſuch a ſet of little heathens.

This, Sir, was the commencement of the plan. It is now about three years ſince we began; and I could wish you were here to make inquiry into the effect.—A woman who lives in a lane where I had fixed a ſchool, told me ſome time ago, that the place was quite a heaven upon Sundays, compared to what it uſed to be. The numbers who have learned to read and ſay their catechiſm are ſo great, that I am aſtoniſhed at it. Upon the Sunday afternoon, the miſtreſſes take their ſcholars to church, a place into which neither they nor their anceſtors had ever before entered with a view to the glory of God. But what is yet more extraordinary, within this month, theſe little raggamuffins have in great numbers taken it into their heads to frequent the early morning prayers, which are held every morning at the cathedral, at ſeven o'clock. I believe there were near fifty this morning. They aſſemble at the houſe of one of the miſtreſſes, and walk before her to church, two and two, in as much order as a company of ſoldiers.—I am generally at church; and after ſervice they all come round me to make their bow; and, if any animoſities have ariſen, to make complaints. The great principle I inculcate is, to be kind and good-natured to each other; not to provoke one another; to be dutiful to their parents; not to offend God by curſing and ſwearing; and ſuch little plain precepts as all may comprehend. As my profeſſion is that of a printer, I have printed a little book, which I gave amongſt them; and ſome friends of mine, ſubſcribers to the Society for promoting Chriſtian Knowledge, ſometimes make me a preſent of a parcel of Bibles, Teſtaments, &c. which I diſtribute as rewards to the deſerving. The ſucceſs that has attended this ſcheme has induced one or two of my friends to adopt the plan, and ſet up Sunday ſchools in other parts of the city; and now a whole pariſh has taken up the object: ſo that I flatter myſelf in time the good effects will appear ſo conſpicuous as to become generally adopted. The number of children at preſent thus engaged on the Sabbath are between two and three hundred; and they are increaſing every week, as the benefit is univerſally ſeen. I have endeavoured to engage the clergy of my acquaintance that reſide in their pariſhes; one has entered into the ſcheme with great fervour; and it was in order to excite others to follow the example, that I inſerted in my paper the paragraph which I ſuppoſe you ſaw copied into the London papers. I cannot expreſs to you the pleaſure I often receive in diſcovering genius, and innate good diſpoſitions, among this little multitude. It is botaniſing in human nature. I have often, too, the ſatisfaction of receiving thanks from parents, for the reformation they perceive in their children. Often I have given them kind admonitions, which I always

do

do in the mildeſt and gentleſt manner. The going among them, doing them little kindneſſes, diſtributing trifling rewards, and ingratiating myſelf with them, I hear, have given me an aſcendency greater than I ever could have imagined; for I am told by their miſtreſſes, that they are very much afraid of my diſpleaſure. If you ever paſs through Glouceſter, I ſhall be happy to pay my reſpects to you, and to ſhew you the effects of this effort at civilization. If the glory of God be promoted in any, even the ſmalleſt degree, ſociety muſt reap ſome benefit. If good ſeed be ſown in the mind at an early period of human life, though it ſhews itſelf not again for many years, it may pleaſe God, at ſome future period, to cauſe it to ſpring up, and to bring forth a plentiful harveſt. With regard to the rules adopted, I only require that they come to the ſchool on Sunday as clean as poſſible. Many were at firſt deterred becauſe they wanted decent cloathing; but I could not undertake to ſupply this defect. I argue, therefore, if you can loiter about without ſhoes, and in a ragged coat, you may as well come to ſchool, and learn what may tend to your good in that garb. I reject none on that footing. All that I require, are, clean hands, clean face, and the hair combed; if you have no clean ſhirt, come in that which you have on. The want of decent apparel at firſt kept great numbers at a diſtance; but they now begin to grow wiſer, and all are preſſing to learn. I have had the good luck to procure places for ſome that were deſerving, which has been of great uſe. You will underſtand that theſe children are from ſix years old to twelve or fourteen. Boys and girls above this age, who have been totally undiſciplined, are generally too refractory for this government. A reformation in ſociety ſeems to me only practicable by eſtabliſhing notices of duty, and practical habits of order and decorum, at an early ſtage.—But whither am I running? I am aſhamed to ſee how much I have treſpaſſed on your patience; but I thought the moſt complete idea of Sunday ſchools was to be conveyed to you by telling what firſt ſuggeſted the thought.—The ſame ſentiments would have ariſen in your mind, had they happened to have been called forth as they were ſuggeſted to me.

I have no doubt that you will find great improvement to be made on this plan. The minds of men have taken great hold on that prejudice, that we are to do nothing on the Sabbath day which may be deemed labour; and therefore we are to be excuſed from all application of mind as well as body. The rooting out this prejudice, is the point I aim at as my favourite object. Our Saviour takes particular pains to manifeſt, that whatever tended to promote the health and happineſs of our fellow-creatures, were ſacrifices peculiarly acceptable on that day. I do not think I have written ſo long a letter for ſome years. But you will excuſe me—my heart is warm in the cauſe. I think this is the kind of reformation moſt requiſite in this kingdom. Let our patriots employ themſelves in reſcuing their countrymen from that deſpotiſm which tyrannical paſſions and vicious inclinations exerciſe over them; and they will find that true liberty and national welfare are more eſſentially promoted, than by any reform in parliament.

As often as I have attempted to conclude, ſome new idea has ariſen. This is ſtrange, as I am writing to a perſon whom I never have, and perhaps never may ſee;—but I have felt that we think alike. I ſhall therefore only add my ardent wiſhes, that your views of promoting the happineſs of ſociety may be attended with every poſſible ſucceſs; conſcious that your own internal enjoyment will thereby be conſiderably advanced. I have the honour to be, Sir, yours, &c.

R. Raikes.

A farther Account of Aeroſtatic experiments [p. 60.]

A Gas balloon, which had been ſome time preparing by order of the academy of Dijon, was at length completed, and launched on the 25th of April laſt, from the garden of an abbey in the town of Dijon. We have not yet learnt its dimenſions, and only know, that its power of aſcenſion was eſtimated at 550 lb.; and that a great part of the inflammable air with which it was filled was procured from potatoes, by diſtillation, which was found to be lighter than that produced from metals, in the proportion of 6 to 7.—M. de Morveau and the Abbe Bertrand were named commiſſaries by the academy, for conducting this experiment; and they actually aſcended in a gondola annexed to it. As this is the moſt important expedition ſince that of Meſſ. Charles

and Robert, our readers will no doubt wiſh to learn ſome particulars concerning it; and nothing will probably gratify them more than the account which the navigators themſelves have given in an affidavit, drawn up immediately on their landing.

"Being apprehenſive," ſay the commiſſaries, "leſt the very high and boiſterous wind that roſe a few moments before our departure, and which had already blown us ſeveral times from the height at which we were held by ropes againſt the ground, ſhould endanger our apparatus, and throw us upon the town, (the place of our aſcent being at the foot of one of its higheſt ſteeples *), we thought it expedient to diſcharge all our ballaſt, and even a part of our proviſions, weighing between 75 and 80 lb. When we had aſcended beyond the roof of the church, and were ſet free by thoſe who held the ropes below, we ſoared with very great rapidity, and ſoon ſaw the ſteeple a great way below us †.

Perceiving now, by the form of our balloon, that the air it contained was exceedingly dilated, both by the heat of the ſun, and on account of the diminution of denſity of the circumambient medium, we opened at once both our valves; but their apertures not being ſufficient to emit a proper quantity of the fluid, the balloon burſt at the bottom near the appendices, the rent meaſuring about ſeven or eight inches in length. This accident, ſo far from alarming us, ſerved rather to remove our apprehenſions.

We now felt ourſelves in a perfect calm, and in a manner ſtationary; and yet we ſoon perceived that we were got to ſome diſtance from the town.

At 5 h. 5′ we paſſed over a village of which we had no knowledge: we there dropped a note, faſtened to a bag filled with bran, bearing a little ſtreamer; we therein gave notice, that we were perfectly well; that the barometer ſtood at 20 inches 9 lines; the thermometer 1½° below 0, (about 28° of Fahr.); and the hygrometer at 59° of Mr de Ketz's, and 24½° of Mr Copineau's ſcale.

We dropped two other notes, which we were obliged to write with a pencil, the cold not allowing us the uſe of the pen. At 5 h. 11′, the thermometer ſtood at 3° below 0, (nearly 25° of Fahr.); and it had in the whole of our aſcent ſunk 14°, (about 31½° of Fahr.).

We obſerved by a ſtop watch the time of the fall of one of the notes. It was no doubt ſomewhat retarded by the ſtreamer; for although its deſcent was almoſt vertical, it yet took no leſs than 57′ in reaching the ground.

The intenſe cold affected our ears; and this was the only inconvenience we experienced; and even for this we were amply indemnified by the ſenſations which Mr Charles has ſo well deſcribed. We have only one obſervation to make upon his lively repreſentation; which is, that ſo far from its being exaggerated, it appeared to us rather too faint, when we ſaw the clouds floating beneath us, and ſecluding us in a manner from the earth. We then jointly repeated the motto affixed to our aeroſtat, *Surgit nunc Gallus ad æthera.*

The ſun, after exhibiting to us a magnificent parhelion, was now near ſetting; and perceiving, by the flaccidity of the lower part of our balloon, that it was time for us to deſcend, we began to look out for a proper landing-place. We concluded, from the direction of the compaſs, that we could not be far from the town of Auxonne; and, in fact, a large maſs of buildings, which we perceived about 25° to our right, proved to be that place. We then had recourſe to all our expedients, in order to ſteer towards that point. Our apparatus for this purpoſe had been greatly damaged by the blaſt of wind at our departure. The rudder was unhinged, one of the oars had ſnapped near its handle, and dropped off the moment we attempted to uſe it in order to accelerate our courſe. Another oar had been entangled in one of the ropes by which we were at firſt held to the ground, and we could never recover it. We had therefore only two oars left; which, being both on the ſame ſide, were perfectly uſeleſs during the greateſt part of our navigation in the calm, and even after we felt ourſelves advancing, although without any perceptible current. But having now entered a ſtream which carried us towards the eaſt, we worked our oars with great facility for about eight or nine minutes. This made us verge ſo much to the ſouth-eaſt, the point of our deſtination, that we found it neceſſary to ſuſpend our work, leſt we ſhould exceed our mark, having no means to make us revert to the eaſtward.

We

* The wind was weſt, and the ſteeple of the Abbey church was to the eaſtward.

† They were launched at 4 h. 58 m. P. M.

We were in hopes of landing near the cluſter of buildings which we had taken for Auxonne; but our globe loſt ſo much of its gas through the rent, that we ſaw little proſpect of reaching that diſtance. We were now over a large tract covered with wood, and felt ourſelves deſcending. We had kept what ballaſt we had left, which conſiſted of little elſe than our looſe benches, that we might have the means of retarding the fall in caſe we ſhould find it neceſſary. We threw out one of theſe benches, and then deſcended very gently upon a copſe, the name of which we have ſince learnt is *Chaignet*, belonging to the Counteſs de Brun. Our gondola had ſcarce touched the tops of the boughs, when it reaſcended with ſome force. We laid hold of the boughs in order to come to an anchor, and to avoid our being thrown againſt ſome tall trees that roſe here and there above the reſt of the wood. We tried to deſcend, by hauling thoſe boughs in the ſame manner as ſhips are moved by towing; but our efforts were ineffectual. We heard human voices, and we called for their aid to ground us. The people we heard were inhabitants of Magnylés-Auxonne; one of them anſwered, that he would gladly aſſiſt us, *if we would promiſe to do him no harm*. We diſpelled his fears; and his example, as well as our repeated deſire, induced at length his companions to aſſiſt us. We landed at 6 h. 25′.—Among the number of inhabitants who were aſſembled, two men and three women were ſeen to kneel to the balloon.

We had juſt moored our apparatus, placed ſome body to guard it, and diſpatched a meſſenger to Dijon, when we ſaw a number of people approaching on the road of Magny; who, having perceived us at Auxonne, were coming to meet us. As many as had room were pleaſed to ſign the preſent affidavit; which we drew up immediately, at the parſonage of Atée, the 25th of April 1784." Signed, DE MORVEAU and BERTRAND, commiſſaries; *Bidal*, prieſt of Atée; *Buvée*, a principal magiſtrate in the juriſdiction of Auxonne, and fourteen more.

To this account, which is all that is hitherto publiſhed, we have it in our power to add ſome farther authentic information. The height to which this balloon aſcended is computed to have been about 2000 French toiſes, (above two and a half Engliſh miles). The diſtance it went in a ſtraight line was about ſix leagues; the time it remained in the air 1 h. 27′. It ſeems that the perſons who held the ropes were exceedingly alarmed at the violence of the wind, and refuſed to let go, till in a manner compelled to it, by a gentleman appointed to repeat the ſignals of the navigators, who, by diſcharging all their ballaſt, and by every other means in their power, expreſſed their eagerneſs to be ſet at liberty.

One of thoſe who held the ropes was raiſed above three feet from the ground before he quitted his hold; and in the fall he hurt his ſhoulder. He has ſince acknowledged, that his intention was to tie the rope to his wriſt, and to follow the balloon: had he ſucceeded, his raſhneſs would inevitably have proved his own deſtruction, with that of the navigators, and of many of thoſe who were ſtanding immediately under them; ſince his weight muſt have drawn the equatorial circle out of its horizontal poſition, which would have made ſome of the ropes to which the gondola was ſuſpended, preſs ſo hard againſt the balloon as infallibly to burſt it.

A full account of this experiment, together with a deſcription of the apparatus, &c. with proper drawings, have been laid by the commiſſaries before the academy of Dijon, and are now in the preſs; and we learn, that a ſubſcription is already opened for a repetition of the experiment, with the ſame apparatus, equipped in the ſame manner.

A fire balloon, ſeventy-two feet high, and ſixty ſix feet in diameter, made by Meſſ. Gherli, at the ſole expence of the Count Andreani, was launched on the 13th of March laſt, at Moncucco, about eight miles diſtant from Milan. The Count and the two Gherlis mounted with it. They continued about twenty-five minutes in the air, roſe above 4000 feet, and landed ſafely at about three miles diſtance from the ſpot whence they aſcended. This is the firſt encroachment of foreigners upon the French privilege of aerial navigation.—The ſecond is a voyage of M. Dumeſnil, who mounted at Moſcow with a large fire balloon; roſe out of ſight, and was not heard of when the account we have ſeen came away. The intelligence hitherto received concerning this experiment is ſo vague, that we cannot lay much ſtreſs upon it.

The

The laſt number of Crell's Chemical Annals (being the fourth for the preſent year) contains an inſtructive paper concerning the manner of preparing aeroſtatic globes, and the precautions uſed in the conſtruction of one, about five feet in diameter, made at Brunſwick, under the direction of Prof. Zimmerman and M. Heyer, which being launched, ſoon roſe out of ſight, and was found, four days after, at a diſtance of nine German (near fifty Engliſh) miles from the place whence it aſcended. It was made of very thin ſattin, glazed over four times with a ſolution of elaſtic gum, in highly rectified oil of turpentine. The methods of preparing this ſolution, of applying it, and of producing the inflammable air, are all circumſtantially deſcribed in the paper; and were it not deviating too far from our plan, would have been here communicated to our readers. Thoſe, however, who may hereafter propoſe to conſtruct balloons will do well to conſult the paper itſelf.

The ſubſcriptions at Paris for other experiments are numerous. The principal are, beſides that of the Abbés Miolan and Janenet, mentioned in p. 60. thoſe of Meſſ. Gattey, Magnie, and Henry, and of Meſſ. Bienvenu and Launoy. We are ſomewhat ſurpriſed not to have yet heard any thing of M. Blanchard's promiſed expedition.

The King of Pruſſia, it is ſaid, has prohibited all aeroſtatic experiments in his dominions; alledging, that the merit of the improvement ſhould be left to the inventors. He is reported to have obſerved upon this occaſion, that Auſtria and Ruſſia aim at the ſupreme dominion on land; England at ſea; France in the air; and that the only element now left for him is *Fire*. M.

*Copy of a Letter * from Mr* HASTINGS, *to the Court of Directors, which was preſented to the Houſe on Friday laſt, on the Motion of Major* Scott.

To the Honourable Court of DIRECTORS of the Honourable UNITED EAST-INDIA COMPANY.

Hon. Sirs, *Fort-William, Dec.* 16. 1783.

I Avail myſelf of a conveyance which has accidentally offered, and which, though uncertain, promiſes to be more expeditious than that afforded by the regular return of your ſhips, to lay before you a brief but faithful account of the actual ſtate of the Honourable Company's affairs in this quarter. I am induced to make this trial by two motives; one, that its ſucceſs may open a new, cheap, and expeditious channel of intelligence between England and India; the other, that it may enable me to defeat, ſooner than I ſhould otherwiſe be able, the inſidious attempts which have been made to alarm your minds, and thoſe of the people of England, with groundleſs apprehenſions for the impoveriſhed and exhauſted condition of the finances of this government.

During a period of five years we have maintained a continued and deſperate ſtate of war in every part of India; we have ſupported your other preſidencies, not by ſcanty, ſlow, and ineffectual ſupplies, but by an anxious anticipation of all their wants, and by a moſt prompt and liberal relief of them; we have aſſiſted the China trade, and have provided larger inveſtments from this precidency than it has ever furniſhed in any given period of the ſame length, from the firſt hour of its eſtabliſhment to the preſent time. In the performance of theſe ſervices, we have fought but little pecuniary aſſiſtance from home; unwilling to add to the domeſtic embarraſſments of our Honourable employers, we have avoided drawing on you for ſupplies upon many occaſions that would have juſtified us in ſeeking ſuch aſſiſtance. In all the exertions of this government, great and ſucceſsful as they have been, it has upheld itſelf with its own reſources. Theſe indeed are not now ſo unincumbered as at the commencement of our difficulties; yet, conſidering the various purpoſes to which they have been applied, they are but little impaired, and require only a ſhort interval of peace to reſtore them to more than their former vigour and abundance.

Incloſed I have the honour to ſend you, N° 1. a ſtate of our treaſury on this day, by which you will perceive that the whole amount of our bonded debt is at this inſtant little more than one crore and 65 lacks of rupees — I do not take notice of the remittance loan at 4 per cent. as it no longer remains an incumbrance on this government, and as I conſider its payment as in a great meaſure provided for

* This Letter was diſpatched from Calcutta on the day the India Bill was rejected by the Houſe of Lords.

for by the large inveſtments which are now on their way to England.

I have alſo incloſed an eſtimate, N° 2. of our receipts and diſburſements to the end of April next; from which it appears, that all the current demands of this government will be paid within that ſhort period, except about 12 lacks of rupees. In this eſtimate the diſburſements have been calculated at their utmoſt amount, and the receipts are ſuch as will in all probability be realized; yet as many expences may become neceſſary which cannot be foreſeen at preſent, it is poſſible that the current demands of this government may at the end of April 1784 exceed the ſum at which they have been eſtimated; but even computing them, contrary to all probability, at 30 lacks, inſtead of 12, they may be completely diſcharged before December 1784; in which caſe, this government will then remain ſubject to no other debt whatſoever than the bonded one, amounting, as I have above ſtated, to about one crore and ſixty-five lacks; a ſum which is not equal to one third of the annual revenues of this country.

I will not venture to promiſe, for my hopes may be too ſanguine, yet as you know the grounds of them, I may expreſs my expectations, of our being able by that period to begin upon the diſcharge of our bonded debt.

The incloſure, N° 3. preſents a view of the inveſtment realized by this government within the courſe of little more than the preſent year, including a period of thirteen months, taken from Dec. 1. 1782, to Jan. 1. 1784. By this ſtatement you will perceive that the value of all the cargoes amount in their actual coſt, excluſive of charges of merchandiſe, to about two crores ſixty-one lacks of rupees. Theſe cargoes will, no doubt, produce a ſum much more than ſufficient to diſcharge all the bills which we have drawn on you, and will I hope help beſides to extricate our honourable employers from any temporary difficulties to which their affairs in Europe may be ſubject. I muſt apply to this occaſion the remark which I have already made, that theſe ample returns of wealth have been ſent to England at a time when all the Company's poſſeſſions in India were leaning, with their accumulated weight, on Bengal, for ſupport, againſt their native and European enemies.

The ſum allowed for the proviſion of this year's inveſtment has been one crore of rupees, to which we have permitted the Board of Trade to add 50 lacks more for ready-made goods, to be paid by drafts on the Treaſury: and to enable us to anſwer theſe we have publiſhed that we ſhall grant bills on you for caſh, or Treaſury-drafts, to be paid into our Treaſury, the bills to be delivered in February 1785, payable in one year, or in two, with intereſt. This meaſure was undertaken for the purpoſe of diſpatching all the ſhips which remained in India, and to prevent ſeveral of them from lying on demurrage.

We have already written preſſingly to the government of Fort St George, to ſend back the troops which we furniſhed to their aſſiſtance from this ſettlement; and Col. Charles Morgan has made ſome progreſs in his march towards theſe provinces with the detachment of our troops employed on the other ſide of India, which he began the 1ſt of laſt month. When theſe detachments arrive, it will probably be the early wiſh of the Board, to make a reduction in the military eſtabliſhment of this government, proportioned to the ſtrength which it will receive by this addition. Such a reduction will, I truſt, be found perfectly compatible with the ſafety of theſe provinces, and will produce a ſaving of at leaſt 50 lacks of rupees in our annual expences.

Upon the whole, I can venture, without heſitation, to aſſure your honourable court, that very few years of peace will enable this government, if properly ſupported and conducted, both to clear off all its incumbrances, and to grow rich from thoſe ſources which before filled its treaſuries, and which have, even in a ſeaſon of univerſal warfare, been increaſed one million Sterling, as appears by my minute recorded in the revenue-department on Dec. 20. 1782.

Human reaſonings, which have a relation to futurity, muſt be founded on the ordinary courſe of affairs, and muſt therefore always be liable to ſome variation, from evils occurring out of the regular train of events. An inſtance of this nature has been for ſome time apprehended in the late failure of the latter rains, which for a time greatly alarmed the inhabitants, and produced the ſudden effect of an artificial ſcarcity; but this was immediately and happily removed, by early meaſures taken for that purpoſe. A committee, conſiſting of ſome

of

of the moſt able of your ſervants, has been appointed to the ſpecial charge of providing againſt the progreſs of this evil; and as there is every reaſon to believe, both from the event of their inquiries, and from former experience, that there is always a ſtore of grain in theſe provinces equal to one year's conſumption, and as the regulations which we have formed are directed moſt pointedly againſt the intereſts of thoſe who ſhall attempt to ſecret it, I have little fear for the future. I muſt add, that the drought, which has partially affected theſe provinces, has raged with the moſt fatal ſeverity in all the weſtern parts of Hindoſtan, even to our own borders. Bleſſed, indeed, will be the courſe of my public life, if, while every other part of the Britiſh dominions ſhall have been afflicted with the plagues of diſtraction, war, and deſolation, and, while the nations lying around us have been doomed to the ſevereſt ſcourge of want and famine, it ſhall have been the diſtinguiſhed lot of the lands immediately ſubject to the government over which I preſide, to have enjoyed the clear and uninterrupted ſunſhine of wealth, peace, and abundance, and to have dealt out a portion of theſe bleſſings to remoter members of the Britiſh dominion.

I have never deceived your honourable court by falſe or exaggerated repreſentations of your affairs; I truſt, therefore, that however the report which I have now the honour to lay before you, may be contradicted by the repreſentations of others, or by your own apprehenſions, that you will at leaſt believe me to be ſtrongly and ſincerely impreſſed with the conviction of its truth.

On the ſtate of your political affairs I ſhall only ſay, that the peace which has been concluded with the Mahrattas has been eſtabliſhed with ſo firm a root, that it is not likely to be ſhaken for many years to come; and that the ceſſation of hoſtilities which has taken place with Tippo Saheb in the Carnatic, will, in all probability, be followed by a confirmed peace, notwithſtanding ſome appearances portending a renewal of the war: The government of Bombay having informed us, that they were under the neceſſity of ſending reinforcements of troops, and ſupplies of proviſions, for the ſupport of Onore and Mangalore, which places had been much diſtreſſed by means perfidiouſly taken by Tippo Saheb to with-hold from them the ſupplies of which he was expreſsly bound to allow their receipt, during the continuance of the pacification. Whatever reliance he may have placed on our forbearance, it is not likely that he will chuſe to commit himſelf to a new ſcene of hoſtilities with the Engliſh nation, when he reflects on the dangers and difficulties of the paſt, and conſiders the tenfold increaſe which they will now receive from the undivided application of all our collected ſtrength, the unſettled ſtate of his authority, the failure of his former reſources, the known combination forming againſt him in all the neighbouring ſtates who were his former aſſociates of the war, the loſs of his European allies, and the defection of his own troops, diſcontented and worn down by long ſervice.

The ſtate of your political relation with your two firſt allies, the Nabob Aſſo ful Dowlah, and the Nabob Wallah Jah, is not to be included in an abridged report; yet I feel too painful a ſenſe of their condition to ſuppreſs the ſum of it. Both groan under the yoke of the moſt oppreſſive ſervitude; no leſs injurious to your preſent and permanent intereſts, than to the credit of your faith and juſtice. I have contended, by every means in my power, to relieve them, but ineffectually. For the detail of theſe ſubjects, I muſt refer to the fuller advices which have been ſent to you by myſelf and the board, by the Nerbuddah, and the ſubſequent diſpatches.

The Nerbuddah ſchooner, which was ſent expreſs with very large and important diſpatches to your honourable court, left the pilot on the 17th of laſt month; and duplicates and triplicates of theſe, with other advices, have been ſince tranſmitted on board the Rodney, Worceſter, and Winterton, which left their pilots between the 1ſt and 10th of this month.——I have the honour to be, honourable Sirs, &c.

WARREN HASTINGS.

ERRATA in the Liſt of the Houſe of Commons in May Magazine.

P. 263. Delete n after J. S. Cocks, member for Grampound, and after J. Sinclair, member for Leſtwithiel, both having been in laſt parliament.

P. 264. *For* C. Dundas, member for Richmond, *read* T. Dundas.

PAR-

PARLIAMENT [p. 232.]

In the Houſe of Commons, May 25. Mr Pitt moved for leave to bring in a bill to continue, for ſix weeks or two months, the act for veſting his Majeſty with powers to keep open, by proclamation, a commercial intercourſe with America. Mr Pitt informed the Houſe, that a committee of the privy council, ſitting in the room of the late board of trade, had been for ſome time back employed in hearing evidence relative to the beſt mode of maintaining that intercourſe: that a voluminous report had been drawn up by order of the committee, which ſhould be laid before the Houſe, upon which he hoped ſome commercial ſyſtem might be eſtabliſhed.—The act is to continue in force till Aug. 1.

The order of hearing petitions complaining of undue elections was determined as follows, viz. petitions on double returns to be heard firſt; petitions againſt members returned for two places, to be heard ſecond; petitions complaining of undue returns only, to be heard in the third place; and all other petitions, not included in the three former kinds, ſuch as thoſe complaining of bribery, illegal votes, &c. to be heard laſt.

Mr Fox then preſented a petition from himſelf, complaining of an undue return for Weſtminſter. But

Lord Mulgrave moved, "That it is the opinion of this Houſe, that the ſaid petition does not come under any one of the deſcriptions of petitions which, under Mr Grenville's act, are to be referred to ſelect committees." His Lordſhip ſaid, that no petitions under that act could be referred to committees, which did not complain of undue returns made of members; but, in the caſe of Weſtminſter, no members had been returned, and therefore the petition could not be entertained.

Mr Fox contended, that the petition was within the ſpirit, if not within the letter of Mr Grenville's act; and that this ſalutary law muſt, in the end, be evaded or totally defeated, if returning officers were to be countenanced in framing their returns in ſuch a manner as to take them out of that act.

After ſome debate, Lord Mulgrave's motion was carried without a diviſion.

Another petition from Mr Fox was brought up by Col. Fitzpatrick, complaining of the conduct of the high bailiff of Weſtminſter, in making the ſpecial return then before the Houſe, and praying that he might be heard by his counſel in ſupport of the petition. The prayer of the petition was granted; and Friday was appointed for hearing counſel; on which day the high bailiff, who had been all this day in waiting, was ordered to attend.

On May 28. Ld Mahon preſented a petition from the bailiff of Weſtminſter, praying to be heard by counſel in anſwer to the counſel for Mr Fox.

This day counſel were heard on Mr Fox's petition, and ſeveral witneſſes examined on the part of Mr Fox. His counſel were Meſſ. Erſkine and Pigott.

The order of the day, May 31. was read for going into a committee of ſupply. Being a new parliament, it was neceſſary to elect a chairman for the committee. The miniſterial ſide of the Houſe cried out Mr Gilbert; the oppoſition Mr Ord.

Mr Fox remarked, that he never was more aſtoniſhed in his life than to ſee party-matters carried to ſuch a pitch, as to turn out a gentleman (Mr Ord) from an office which he had held with honour and ability for ſeveral parliaments under different adminiſtrations; but he plainly ſaw it was the intention of miniſtry, inſtead of reducing the influence of the Crown, to increaſe it, by appointing to every place of emolument (even in the gift of that Houſe) perſons whom they thought would ſupport them in all their meaſures.

Mr Pitt replied, that he knew nothing of party-buſineſs in the queſtion, that every new parliament was at liberty to chuſe its own officers, and although Mr Ord had undoubtedly filled the place with ability, Mr Gilbert was equally eligible, if the Houſe thought proper.

Mr Gilbert took the chair without farther oppoſition. The ſalary of the chairman is 500l. *per ann.*

Mr Gilbert then moved for 26,000 ſeamen, including 4495 marines, for the ſervice of the year 1784, and 4l. per month per man for their pay. The motion paſſed without oppoſition, and next day was agreed to by the Houſe.

Mr Fox preſented a petition from ſeveral electors of Weſtminſter, complaining of the conduct of the high bailiff. On motion of Mr Dundas, it was ordered to be taken into conſideration at the ſame time with Mr Fox's.—

This petition prays, that they may be exempted from the payment of any tax which may be impoſed by parliament while they remain unrepreſented.

The Houſe reſolved into a committee, June 2. Mr Gilbert in the chair, to take into conſideration a propoſition for making ſome alteration in the revenue laws.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer then roſe. He obſerved, that after the great pains that had been taken in hearing evidence, and compiling reports relative to the illicit trade carried on in this kingdom, it would be expected that ſome ſteps ſhould be taken for the purpoſe of carrying into effect many of the regulations ſuggeſted in the various reports that had been made to the Houſe by their committees. The regulations which he wiſhed to introduce were, to extend the hovering laws, that is to ſay, thoſe laws by virtue of which ſmuggling veſſels are ſeizable when found hovering within a certain diſtance of the ſhore; and beyond which diſtance they cannot at preſent be touched: he wiſhed alſo that all veſſels, not in the ſervice of government, which ſhould carry any large guns, without a licence, ſhould be made ſeizable: he propoſed alſo, that ſome ſtrict regulations ſhould be adopted, relative to the clearing out of ſhips, &c. He intended to introduce theſe regulations into a bill; and he concluded by moving, that the chairman be directed to move the Houſe for leave to bring in a bill for the more effectually preventing the practice of ſmuggling. The queſtion was put, and carried without any debate. Mr Pitt then informed the committee, that he intended alſo to propoſe ſomething relative to teas, ſpirituous liquors, &c. but he was not yet prepared to bring that buſineſs before the committee.

The Houſe was then reſumed; and the chairman made the motion the committee had directed. It paſſed without any oppoſition.

Lord Mahon then preſented a petition from ſeveral electors of Weſtminſter, praying that the Houſe would be pleaſed to ſuffer the high bailiff to proceed in the ſcrutiny. His Lordſhip then moved, that it ſhould be taken into conſideration at the ſame time with the other petions relative to the Weſtminſter election.

Mr Fox ſaid, he did not mean to oppoſe the motion; his only reaſon for riſing was merely to obſerve, that he never heard of ſuch a petition in his life; former petitions relative to elections concluded with a prayer, that a proper return might be made; but the prayer of the Noble Lord's petition was, that the electors of Weſtminſter might continue unrepreſented.

Mr Pitt ſaid, he roſe to prevent the Houſe from being led away with the idea that the prayer of the petition was, that Weſtminſter might remain unrepreſented. On the contrary, it was much more natural to infer, from the petition, that the perſons who were parties to it were apprehenſive that they might be miſrepreſented; for which reaſon they wiſhed for a ſcrutiny. The motion was agreed to.

Counſel were then called to the bar. Meſſ. Garrow and Douglas ſpoke in behalf of the friends of Mr Fox, and Meſſ. Mingay and Watſon for the high bailiff. Mr Watſon then proceeded to call witneſſes to ſupport the meaſures of the high bailiff. Mr Atkinſon (ſecretary of Ld Hood and Sir Cecil Wray's committee) was the firſt witneſs. Various debates enſued upon different queſtions put to him, and much warmth and aſperity appeared on both ſides of the Houſe, particularly between Mr Fox and Ld Mulgrave. The latter deſcribed the poll to have been procraſtinated by baſe and ſhuffling tricks. In reply, Mr Fox ſaid, he had not been accuſtomed to ſuch language; language every way unbecoming a man of education, a gentleman, or a man of honour.——After much altercation and debate, the Houſe roſe at ſix in the morning, having not more than half examined one witneſs. Several witneſſes were examined next day, and the Houſe adjourned till the 7th, on which day the evidence cloſed. The high bailiff was then called to the bar, and delivered from a paper, a well-digeſted ſpeech, which he called the reaſons which operated upon his mind to grant the ſcrutiny. It ſtated, That there were 10,000 votes given in the courſe of the firſt ten days: That in Vandeput and Trentham's election, there were only 9200 and odd votes, and in the preſent inſtance 12,200 and odd: That there could not be ſuch an increaſe, conſidering the operation of Mr Crew's bill: That Mr Fox threatened a ſcrutiny when he was in a minority, &c. &c.

Mr Erſkine was then heard on behalf of Mr Fox for two hours and a half.—The Houſe roſe at half paſt two.

Mr Pitt, June 8. preſented a copy of the

the definitive treaty between Britain and Holland.

The order of the day being then read, for proceeding on the Weſtminſter election, Mr Welbore Ellis ſaid, that ſo much legal knowledge and erudition had been diſplayed by the counſel who attended the bar on this buſineſs, that it would not be requiſite, nor indeed becoming in him, to enter on that part of the queſtion; but as it involved matter of great conſtitutional import, it certainly came within his province, as a man long converſant in parliamentary buſineſs, to ſpeak the ſuggeſtions of experience, and the language of parliament, as well as reaſon. Mr Ellis then took a very extenſive and comprehenſive view of the petition now before the Houſe, the principles on which it was founded, and the defence of the high bailiff of Weſtminſter; and concluded with the following motion: "That it appearing to this Houſe, that Thomas Corbett, Eſq; High Bailiff of the liberty of the city of Weſtminſter, having received a precept from the ſheriffs of Middleſex, for electing two citizens to ſerve in parliament for the ſaid city, and having taken and finally cloſed the poll on the 17th day of May laſt, being the day next before the day of the return of the ſaid writ, be now forthwith directed to make return of his precept, and of the members choſen in purſuance thereof."

Mr Anſtruther ſeconded the motion.

Ld Mulgrave took the oppoſite ground, and combated the motion, and the principles on which it was founded. He declared, that however his reaſon might revolt againſt, or his feelings oppoſe any thing unfair or unjuſt, ſtill, if by ingenuity or management, if by intrigue or manœuvre, any meaſure was proved to be founded in law, he would, for one, ſupport it, ſince the inflexibility of law ought to be proved and ſubmitted to on all occaſions. God forbid he ſhould ever oppoſe what was founded on conſtitutional principles; but happily on this occaſion he need not make this ſacrifice. The impartiality, fairneſs, firmneſs, and conſtancy of the high bailiff, were obvious to every perſon who attended the buſineſs, and witneſſed the reading of his manly and ſatisfactory defence. His Lordſhip ſhewed that the moſt cogent motives preſſed him to grant a ſcrutiny, both to ſatisfy his own conſcience, and to deal impartial juſtice.

The Lord Advocate of Scotland [Mr Campbell] obſerved, that the method adopted in this country for conducting elections muſt be always productive of inconveniencies: in that part of the kingdom with which he was beſt acquainted, he muſt ſay, with due deference to this country, that elections were much better conducted, ſo, indeed, as to preclude the neceſſity for a ſcrutiny; no man being admitted on the poll who did not firſt make out and certify his qualifications. There was, he ſaid, one point in this buſineſs on which he had not completely made up his mind; which was, the duty of the high bailiff not being exactly attended to. He was not ſure but the ſheriff ſhould have made a return of members, though he was far from thinking that the numbers on his book ſhould direct him in his return (as was the caſe in Scotland), but the majority of legal numbers. And beſide, if the bailiff was now *functus officio*, as the gentlemen on the other ſide contended, why ſhould they pray for his ſtill making a return, under a writ which was now defunct with him; therefore it was a queſtion, whether the proper mode might not be to order a new election, though perhaps the late candidates, in prudence, might decline a repetition of the trouble and expence they experienced in the late election.

Sir James Erſkine, in a ſpeech of conſiderable length, went over the whole ground of the caſe, and ſhewed that the conduct of the high bailiff, if ſuffered in the preſent inſtance to paſs without that degree of cenſure which ſo flagrant a violation of duty juſtly deſerved, went virtually to the entire ſubverſion of the very uſe and exiſtence of parliament.

Mr Powis, with ſome degree of warmth, expreſſed his entire diſapprobation of the conduct of that Houſe, ſhould they rathly attempt to negative the queſtion then before them; for they would thereby eſtabliſh a precedent, which neither the ſtatute nor the common law ever intended ſhould be laid down; for it was a poſition clearly evident, that the returning officer was by law, and by the tenor of the writ to him directed, obliged to return thoſe two who had a majority of votes on the poll. He aſſured the Houſe, that he always wiſhed to ſee a ſtrong government carrying on meaſures for the good of the nation; but a ſtrong government carrying on proſecutions to diſtreſs

This petition prays, that they may be exempted from the payment of any tax which may be impoſed by parliament while they remain unrepreſented.

The Houſe reſolved into a committee, June 2. Mr Gilbert in the chair, to take into conſideration a propoſition for making ſome alteration in the revenue laws.

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The Houſe was then reſumed; and the chairman made the motion the committee had directed. It paſſed without any oppoſition.

Lord Mahon then preſented a petition from ſeveral electors of Weſtminſter, praying that the Houſe would be pleaſed to ſuffer the high bailiff to proceed in the ſcrutiny. His Lordſhip then moved, that it ſhould be taken into conſideration at the ſame time with the other petitions relative to the Weſtminſter election.

Mr Fox ſaid, he did not mean to oppoſe the motion; his only reaſon for riſing was merely to obſerve, that he never heard of ſuch a petition in his life; former petitions relative to elections concluded with a prayer, that a proper return might be made; but the prayer of the Noble Lord's petition was, that the electors of Weſtminſter might continue unrepreſented.

Mr Pitt ſaid, he roſe to prevent the Houſe from being led away with the idea that the prayer of the petition was, that Weſtminſter might remain unrepreſented. On the contrary, it was much more natural to infer, from the petition, that the perſons who were parties to it were apprehenſive that they might be miſrepreſented; for which reaſon they wiſhed for a ſcrutiny. The motion was agreed to.

Counſel were then called to the bar. Meſſ. Garrow and Douglas ſpoke in behalf of the friends of Mr Fox, and Meſſ. Mingay and Watſon for the high bailiff. Mr Watſon then proceeded to call witneſſes to ſupport the meaſures of the high bailiff. Mr Atkinſon (ſecretary of Ld Hood and Sir Cecil Wray's committee) was the firſt witneſs. Various debates enſued upon different queſtions put to him, and much warmth and aſperity appeared on both ſides of the Houſe, particularly between Mr Fox and Ld Mulgrave. The latter deſcribed the poll to have been procraſtinated by baſe and ſhuffling tricks. In reply, Mr Fox ſaid, he had not been accuſtomed to ſuch language; language every way unbecoming a man of education, a gentleman, or a man of honour.——After much altercation and debate, the Houſe roſe at ſix in the morning, having not more than half examined one witneſs. Several witneſſes were examined next day, and the Houſe adjourned till the 7th, on which day the evidence cloſed. The high bailiff was then called to the bar, and delivered from a paper, a well-digeſted ſpeech, which he called the reaſons which operated upon his mind to grant the ſcrutiny. It ſtated, That there were 10,000 votes given in the courſe of the firſt ten days: That in Vandeput and Trentham's election, there were only 9200 and odd votes, and in the preſent inſtance 12,200 and odd: That there could not be ſuch an increaſe, conſidering the operation of Mr Crew's bill: That Mr Fox threatened a ſcrutiny when he was in a minority, &c. &c.

Mr Erſkine was then heard on behalf of Mr Fox for two hours and a half.—The Houſe roſe at half paſt two.

Mr Pitt, June 8. preſented a copy of the

the definitive treaty between Britain and Holland.

The order of the day being then read, for proceeding on the Weſtminſter election, Mr Welbore Ellis ſaid, that ſo much legal knowledge and erudition had been diſplayed by the counſel who attended the bar on this buſineſs, that it would not be requiſite, nor indeed becoming in him, to enter on that part of the queſtion; but as it involved matter of great conſtitutional import, it certainly came within his province, as a man long converſant in parliamentary buſineſs, to ſpeak the ſuggeſtions of experience, and the language of parliament, as well as reaſon. Mr Ellis then took a very extenſive and comprehenſive view of the petition now before the Houſe, the principles on which it was founded, and the defence of the high bailiff of Weſtminſter; and concluded with the following motion: "That it appearing to this Houſe, that Thomas Corbett, Eſq; High Bailiff of the liberty of the city of Weſtminſter, having received a precept from the ſheriffs of Middleſex, for electing two citizens to ſerve in parliament for the ſaid city, and having taken and finally cloſed the poll on the 17th day of May laſt, being the day next before the day of the return of the ſaid writ, be now forthwith directed to make return of his precept, and of the members choſen in purſuance thereof."

Mr Anſtruther ſeconded the motion.

Ld Mulgrave took the oppoſite ground, and combated the motion, and the principles on which it was founded. He declared, that however his reaſon might revolt againſt, or his feelings oppoſe any thing unfair or unjuſt, ſtill, if by ingenuity or management, if by intrigue or manœuvre, any meaſure was proved to be founded in law, he would, for one, ſupport it, ſince the inflexibility of law ought to be proved and ſubmitted to on all occaſions. God forbid he ſhould ever oppoſe what was founded on conſtitutional principles; but happily on this occaſion he need not make this ſacrifice. The impartiality, fairneſs, firmneſs, and conſtancy of the high bailiff, were obvious to every perſon who attended the buſineſs, and witneſſed the reading of his manly and ſatisfactory defence. His Lordſhip ſhewed that the moſt cogent motives preſſed him to grant a ſcrutiny, both to ſatisfy his own conſcience, and to deal impartial juſtice.

The Lord Advocate of Scotland [Mr Campbell] obſerved, that the method adopted in this country for conducting elections muſt be always productive of inconveniencies: in that part of the kingdom with which he was beſt acquainted, he muſt ſay, with due deference to this country, that elections were much better conducted, ſo, indeed, as to preclude the neceſſity for a ſcrutiny; no man being admitted on the poll who did not firſt make out and certify his qualifications. There was, he ſaid, one point in this buſineſs on which he had not completely made up his mind; which was, the duty of the high bailiff not being exactly attended to. He was not ſure but the ſheriff ſhould have made a return of members, though he was far from thinking that the numbers on his book ſhould direct him in his return (as was the caſe in Scotland), but the majority of legal numbers. And beſide, if the bailiff was now *functus officio*, as the gentlemen on the other ſide contended, why ſhould they pray for his ſtill making a return, under a writ which was now defunct with him; therefore it was a queſtion, whether the proper mode might not be to order a new election, though perhaps the late candidates, in prudence, might decline a repetition of the trouble and expence they experienced in the late election.

Sir James Erſkine, in a ſpeech of conſiderable length, went over the whole ground of the caſe, and ſhewed that the conduct of the high bailiff, if ſuffered in the preſent inſtance to paſs without that degree of cenſure which ſo flagrant a violation of duty juſtly deſerved, went virtually to the entire ſubverſion of the very uſe and exiſtence of parliament.

Mr Powis, with ſome degree of warmth, expreſſed his entire diſapprobation of the conduct of that Houſe, ſhould they raſhly attempt to negative the queſtion then before them; for they would thereby eſtabliſh a precedent, which neither the ſtatute nor the common law ever intended ſhould be laid down; for it was a poſition clearly evident, that the returning officer was by law, and by the tenor of the writ to him directed, obliged to return thoſe two who had a majority of votes on the poll. He aſſured the Houſe, that he always wiſhed to ſee a ſtrong government carrying on meaſures for the good of the nation; but a ſtrong government carrying on proſecutions to diſtreſs

an individual, was what he deſpiſed. With reſpect to Lord Hood, he really was at a loſs to know what kind of character he was. He wiſhed to ſee him in the Houſe; but at preſent he thought the Noble Lord appeared in a ſtrange light: a perſon apparently the choice of the people, and neither aſſerting his own or his conſtituents rights, but ſuffering himſelf to be made a mere puppet of, in acquieſcing to whatever the party wiſhed to do.

After ſeveral other members had ſpoke, the Speaker was proceeding to put the queſtion, when

Mr Fox roſe. He began with claiming a right as a party to be heard laſt in the debate of the day, and obſerved, that the Weſtminſter election was not his cauſe, but the cauſe of the electors of Great Britain in general, and of his conſtituents in particular. As far as regarded himſelf, the caſe had been ſufficiently argued by the very able, eloquent, and learned counſel at the bar, and ſufficiently ſupported and illuſtrated by the unanſwerable arguments of thoſe gentlemen, who had done themſelves ſo much honour, as well as done him ſo much ſervice, by the convincing reaſons they had advanced, and the ſtriking manner in which they had ſhewn, that the Houſe could not, conſiſtently with its own dignity, conſiſtently with decency, conſiſtently with impartiality, and conſiſtently with juſtice, do otherwiſe than adopt the motion that had been propoſed by his Rt Hon. friend. But as the cauſe was not ſo much his cauſe as an individual, as it was the cauſe of his country and the conſtitution, he ſhould be loſt to every ſenſe of feeling, loſt to every recollection of the gratitude he owed to his conſtituents and to the people of England, and forgetful of all that he fought to hold moſt in his memory, if he did not exert every little ability he was poſſeſſed of, and employ the whole of the ſmall ſtock of his talents, in endeavouring to give the cauſe every benefit and every ſupport that it could poſſibly derive from any effort he could make, to render it more obvious, and to impreſs the true ſtate of it more forcibly on the minds of the Houſe. After this exordium, he proceeded to animadvert on the evidence that had been heard at the bar; but firſt of all, he deſired the Houſe to take notice, that although it had been attempted by one of the witneſſes to be proved, that a large number of perſons had polled for him, who either could not be found, or who had no votes, yet that, in fact, it had not been eſtabliſhed, that any one bad vote had been received for him. He then went through the parts of the evidence, combating ſuch as appeared to bear hard upon him, and maintaining, that when the whole was diſpaſſionately examined, it would be found, that no portion of it amounted to a proof, that the high bailiff had reaſonable ground of doubt on his own mind ſufficient to juſtify him as a conſcientious man in granting a ſcrutiny. He ſaid, when he conſidered the extraordinary tranſactions that had marked every part of the election, the means taken to defeat its ſucceſs in the progreſs of it, the ſcandalous meaſures reſorted to near the cloſe of the poll, to fix the baſeſt and blackeſt of all ſtigmas upon his character and that of his friends, and the conduct of the high bailiff on the 17th May and ſubſequent to that day, he could have no doubt of the interference of government to deprive the electors of Weſtminſter of the exerciſe of their rights, and to prevent him from the advantage and the honour of ſitting in parliament as their repreſentative. When he conſidered that the military had been called out in a moſt unconſtitutional manner; when he conſidered that the civil power employed under a magiſtrate of Weſtminſter, whoſe duty, and whoſe immediate office it was, to preſerve the peace, and prevent diſorder, had not only been the immediate cauſe of riot and tumult, but the inſtruments in perpetrating the foul crime of murder; and when he conſidered likewiſe, that in conſequence of that murder, honeſt and innocent men had been put to the bar of the Old Bailey, and that friends of his, dear to him for their many eminent and amiable qualities, reſpectable in their characters, and every way meriting the eſteem and conſideration of mankind, had been tried for their lives, and put into a predicament of danger, from which nothing but the moſt fortunate circumſtances, that happily intervened, and afforded the moſt indiſputable proofs of their innocence, could have reſcued them: When he reflected on theſe heart-rending circumſtances, there did not remain a doubt on his mind, but that the ſtrong hand of government had been oppoſed to him, and that it was the wicked intention of his enemies to go all lengths in his perſecution, and

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to ſtop at nothing that was likely to effect his political annihilation. Let thoſe who were in poſſeſſion of power, wear their triumphs more ſoberly; let them act more prudently; their unmanly endeavours to oppreſs an individual, they might reſt aſſured, would prove the means of opening the eyes of the public, and of ſhewing the fallacy of the clamours that had been ſo artfully ſpread, and ſo induſtriouſly circulated, to the prejudice of the individual now attempted to be perſecuted to deſtruction, in a manner ſo ſhameful and ſo unexampled: not that he meant to involve the Rt Hon. Gentleman oppoſite to him in the charge of being intentionally his perſecutor; he would do him the juſtice to ſay, that he did not believe he was a willing inſtrument in ſo baſe a cauſe; he imputed the ſhare he took in the buſineſs, ſolely to too ſervile a compliance with thoſe whoſe characteriſtic it was, to hate with rancour, and to purſue the means of reſentment and revenge with the moſt remorſeleſs pertinacity. He would adviſe that Rt Hon. Gentleman, however, to conſider the lengths he was proceeding, and to ſee the danger of puſhing the oppreſſion of an individual too far: let him conſider the effect the deciſion of the Houſe would have upon the rights of electors in general, and by that means on the conſtitution of the country; let him temperately weigh the conſequences that muſt inevitably follow, and he flattered himſelf he would be of opinion, that the Houſe ought either to adopt the motion then under conſideration, or order a new writ to be iſſued.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer roſe the inſtant Mr Fox ſat down, and ſaid, though the Hon. Gentleman had begun with laying in his claim to the right of being heard as laſt ſpeaker, in a debate upon a cauſe in which he was himſelf a party, and in which, according to the ſtanding orders of the Houſe, he had no right to have been heard at all, he muſt trouble the Houſe with a few ſhort obſervations, in conſequence of the inflammatory aſſertions with which he had choſen to load a ſpeech of ſome hours continuance. And he would firſt begin with reading the ſtanding order, which directs, that no member, having a petition delivered againſt him, complaining of an undue return, ſhall be allowed to remain in the Houſe, while any debate is going on upon the ſubject of ſuch petition. Inſtead of complying with this ſtanding order, the Hon. Gentleman had riſen again and again to ſpeak to the Weſtminſter election; thus taking advantage of his having accidentally the right to ſit as member for the borough of Kirkwall. Before the Houſe ſuffered itſelf to receive any impreſſion from the violent and groſs aſſertions, and from the charges of the blackeſt nature, which the Rt Hon. Gentleman had been ſo hardy as to urge directly againſt government, he truſted the candour of every impartial man would expect ſome proof of the truth of any one of them; without good and ſufficient inſtances of which, it would, he believed, be a little difficult for the Hon. Gentleman to reſcue his own character, even from the imputation of foul ſlander and of calumny. It was not the Rt Hon. Gentleman's charge that would brand the government of the country with injuſtice; it was not his endeavours to excite popular clamour, and to challenge the compaſſion of the public, by aiming to appear the object of the moſt unexampled miniſterial perſecution, that would anſwer his ends, unleſs that charge, and thoſe endeavours, were fully ſubſtantiated. Let him bring evidence of the facts he had alledged, and let government incur the diſgrace it would in that caſe deſervedly be ſtamped with. Accuſations, ſuch as the Hon. Gentleman had thrown out at random, and with a degree of wantonneſs no leſs wicked than ill-judged and injurious, were not light accuſations: they were of a deep and ſerious nature, amounting to no leſs than an unqualified charge, of having employed a Weſtminſter magiſtrate, and the civil power acting under him, firſt in breaking the peace, and encouraging riots, and next in perpetrating the crime of murder, and afterwards in the ſubornation of perjury to prove that murder on innocent men, and on reſpectable individuals. [Mr Fox exclaimed acroſs the Houſe—I never ſaid ſo!]. The Rt Hon. Gentleman had alſo ſaid, the ſtrong hand of government was obvious throughout the buſineſs. If this were true, let the charge be brought and the fact eſtabliſhed; he truſted the hand of government would never be ſo ſtrong, as to enable it to avert any accuſation of guilt that was founded, but that when its criminality was ſubſtantiated, the merited odium and diſgrace would fall on its head; on the other hand, he truſted, that government would

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never be ſo weak, as to be ſhaken by aſſertions without proof, and charges unſuſtained by evidence. The Hon. Gentleman had been profuſe of his advice to government, not to be his perſecutors; ſuch advice was neither neceſſary, nor aſked for; miniſters knew too well, that the only way to weaken and debaſe their own reputation, and to ſtrengthen and exalt that of the Hon. Gentleman, was to render him the object of their perſecution. Indeed he wondered not at the Hon. Gentleman's zeal and eagerneſs to hold himſelf out to the world as the object of miniſterial perſecution; it was well worth his while to appear as that object; nay, he had no doubt but the Hon. Gentleman would go great lengths, perhaps conſent to ſuffer martyrdom itſelf, for the obtainment of that, which every body muſt know would be the price of his canonization, viz. the being reſtored to that rank in the eſteem of the public, which he had loſt by his deteſtable conduct in politics, thereby forfeiting at once the popular opinion, and every portion of popular confidence. Mr Pitt reminded the Houſe, that it would have been much more for the eaſe and convenience of adminiſtration, to have let Mr Fox take his ſeat quietly for Weſtminſter; and this conduct they would have adopted, had they been more inclined to conſult their own accommodation, than the juſt rights of the electors of Weſtminſter, and the true purpoſes of ſubſtantial juſtice. He next entered into an examination of different parts of the evidence, and ſaid, the anſwers which had been given to the queſtions put to the witneſſes on their croſs-examination, by the Hon. Gentleman himſelf, afforded him ſufficient reaſon to conſider the high bailiff as having acted in the only way in which he could have acted, conſonantly with a conſcientious diſcharge of his duty, and in due obedience to his oath. He examined the reaſoning that had been advanced in the courſe of the debate, as grounded upon the ſeveral ſtatutes that had been alluded to by different gentlemen in their arguments, and contended, that the concluſion that had been drawn was not ſuch as the premiſes had warranted. He ridiculed the idea of any danger ariſing from the precedent that would grow out of the preſent caſe, if the Houſe ſhould direct the high bailiff to proceed with the ſcrutiny, becauſe, he ſaid, whenever a returning officer did not comply with the exigency of the writ, the Houſe of Commons would call upon him for his reaſons for not having obeyed it; and unleſs he could aſſign very good reaſons for his conduct, he would be very ſeverely puniſhed for it. He put a caſe hypothetically: If a profligate canditate, whoſe principles were deteſted by the people, ſhould ſtand for Weſtminſter, and at the beginning ſhould cram the poll ſo faſt as to render it impoſſible for the high bailiff to ſcrutiniſe the votes as the poll proceeded, and after ſuch candidate had obtained his end, ſo far as to get ſome thouſands on the poll, he ſhould then adopt procraſtinating meaſures, and delay the poll by feeding it, as it was called, with one vote or two in an hour, till it was prolonged to the very day preceding the return of the writ, and by that means prevent the poſſibility of a ſcrutiny; any candidate of that deſcription might procure his return againſt the real ſenſe of the legal voters. In ſuch caſe, therefore, there would be a manifeſt abuſe of the right of election; and as the caſe, though he had put it hypothetically, was certainly practicable, and might happen, it was evident a new law was neceſſary to regulate the poll, and ſo to limit its duration, as to give the bailiff time, not only to take the poll, but even to begin and end a ſcrutiny, if neceſſary, before the return of the writ. That the bringing in the bill for that purpoſe on the ſpur of the preſent occaſion, would be an injuſtice to the electors of Weſtminſter, was a doctrine that he could not ſubſcribe to. When were new laws to be made, but when their neceſſity was evinced by recent circumſtances of inconvenience? Mr Pitt concluded with giving his negative to the queſtion.

At half paſt four, the queſtion being loudly called for, the Houſe divided; when there appeared, for the motion, 117; againſt it, 195.

Lord Mulgrave then roſe, and after a ſhort ſpeech, moved, "That the high bailiff of the city of Weſtminſter do proceed in the ſcrutiny for the ſaid city with all practical diſpatch."

Mr Fox oppoſed this ſtrenuouſly, as a motion the Houſe was not bound to come to, and as a queſtion that called neceſſarily for a conſiderable ſhare of diſcuſſion, before gentlemen could poſſibly make up their minds upon it, ſo as to decide whether it ought to paſs or not.

Mr Lee followed Mr Fox with ſimilar arguments.

arguments. Mr Lee alſo much doubted the legality of the Houſe's coming into any ſuch deciſion, ſince it was interfering by one of their orders with the duty of the high bailiff, who acted under a different authority. Mr Lee concluded with moving a queſtion of adjournment.

Mr Fox ſeconded this motion, and called upon his friends for ſupport in oppoſing the original motion.

Sir Thomas Davenport deprecated the original motion. He ſaid, either the high bailiff poſſeſſed a legal authority for his conduct as a returning officer, or he did not. If he was veſted with a legal authority, he ought to be left in the undiſturbed exerciſe of it.

Mr Solicitor-General ſaid, the whole amount of the original motion was nothing more than an inſtruction from the chair to expedite the buſineſs of the ſcrutiny.

Mr Burke roſe to reprobate the conduct of the Houſe, which he complained of as ſtrangely inconſiſtent. The Houſe had ſpent a whole day and night in eſtabliſhing the doctrine, that the high bailiff poſſeſſed a diſcretion, and now they were going to vote a reſolution to put an end to that diſcretion completely. The ſtrength of this contradictory conduct excited the indignation of Mr Burke, and betrayed him into rather a vehement tone of expreſſion; which gave ſome diſpleaſure to the Treaſury Bench, who ſaid ſomething that Mr Burke did not reliſh, as he ſat down with ſaying, he little minded the ill treatment of a parcel of boys.

This occaſioned a call to order, when Mr Dundas roſe, and calmed the riſing ſtorm, by a very friendly and rational appeal to Mr Burke's good ſenſe, whether a new parliament could be expected to bear abuſe with patience, or to endure their being called a parcel of boys.

Mr Burke roſe, as collected and placid, as he had ſat down indignant, and in a gentle and winning way, apologized for his vehemence, declaring, that he felt the utmoſt reſpect for the Houſe, that he knew every thing depended on the Britiſh Houſe of Commons, and he was ready to bow down to any cenſure the Houſe might think proper to beſtow on him; but that when he uſed the term a parcel of boys, he meant to apply it to the miniſtry, who, he conceived, were inſulting him with their triumph; a triumph, which grey hairs ought to be allowed the privilege of expreſſing diſpleaſure at, when it was founded in the raſh exultation of mere boys.

The Houſe then divided on the queſtion of adjournment, Ayes 90, Noes 178.

Mr Fox again roſe, and begged the Houſe to conſider the tendency of the reſolution; for if the high bailiff ſhould, on a retroſpective view of his conduct, find the ground on which he might have thought he ſtood ſo firmly, cut from under him, and might be inclined to do juſtice and make his return, this reſolution, being in its nature mandatory, might ſtand in his way; and moreover, this reſolution would have another effect, either to compel him to plead before a tribunal, againſt the legality of which he had proteſted, or ſubject him to the reſentment of the Houſe for being contumacious, and diſregarding their privileges.

Mr H. Dundas replied, that no man would be more ready to vote againſt the motion than himſelf, if it laid any ſuch reſtraint on the conſcience of the high bailiff, but it certainly did not.

Mr Sheridan then begged leave to put another queſtion to the learned gentleman.—Suppoſe his Hon. Friend ſhould ſend a formal proteſt to the high bailiff, ſigned by himſelf and other electors, ſignifying their diſregard to his power, as acting under an uſurped authority, and that they did not mean to trouble themſelves about the ſcrutiny; whether, in that caſe, ſuch notice would ſubject his Hon. Friend to the reſentment of the Houſe for contumacy?

Mr H. Dundas, in reply, ſaid, that nothing in the motion now before the Houſe would have that effect. He might proteſt; but, if in that proteſt he ſhould proceed to cenſure the proceedings of the Houſe, he could not ſay how far the Houſe might or might not think itſelf bound to take notice of it.

Ld Mulgrave's motion was then put and carried; and the high bailiff was called in, and the Speaker acquainted him with the reſolution.

The Houſe roſe at half paſt ſix on Wedneſday morning.

In a committee of ſupply, June 11. Capt. James Luttrell, as ſurveyor-general of the ordnance, moved the ſupply for the ordnance ſervice of the preſent year, amounting to 810,699 l.—He lamented that the heavy debt on the ordnance,

nance occaſioned every year a conſiderable loſs to the public, becauſe it created a diſcount of 28 per cent. on the bills with which the officers of the board went to market: ſo that if the debt could be paid off, and it would certainly be the intereſt of the nation that it ſhould be paid ſpeedily, and that the board could could buy with ready money, there would be a ſaving to the public of 28 per cent. on all the articles purchaſed for ordnance ſervice.

After ſome converſation reſpecting the ſums laid out in fortifications, the money was voted.

In a committee of ſupply on the army eſtimates, June 14. the Secretary at War moved, that 17,483 effective men, commiſſioned and non-commiſſioned officers, including 2036 invalids, be employed as land-forces for 1784, and 636,190 l. be granted for their pay; and 284,213 l. for the forces in the plantations, Gibraltar, &c. Theſe motions being agreed to, Mr Roſe, ſecretary of the treaſury, moved for certain ſpecific ſums for deficiencies, amounting to about 800,000 l. which was likewiſe carried. The Houſe was then reſumed, and

Mr Burke roſe to make his promiſed motion relative to the King's ſpeech. To ſome people, he ſaid, it might ſeem of no great conſequence; but to him it appeared of ſuch magnitude, that he was not aſhamed to ſay his ſoul was full of it. A parliament had been ſentenced, condemned, and executed, and no notice had yet been taken of it. If the meaneſt ſubject had died by violent means, an inqueſt would have taken cognizance of his deceaſe; but the parliament of G. Britain had been put to a violent death, and no inquiry had been made whether it had been *felo de ſe* or *jure cæſus*. Much had been ſaid of the ſenſe of the people, as the ground on which miniſters might reſt their defence of the late diſſolution. The plea, he confeſſed, might, on ſome occaſions, be admitted; but how was that ſenſe to be collected? The people, he obſerved, might be divided into three diſtinct claſſes, which, for brevity, may be called monarchy-men, rank republicans, and moderate men. The two firſt claſſes were equally ſworn enemies to the Houſe of Commons, though from the moſt oppoſite views. The one from principle, as lovers of monarchy; the other from hatred, becauſe the Houſe of Commons ſupported it. Of the third claſs, he would not heſitate to ſay that full three fourths went heart and hand with the late Houſe of Commons; the other fourth he believed to be led from miſrepreſentation to join the two firſt claſſes. Though he truſted that many of them were already undeceived, yet it was the duty of the Houſe of Commons to warn the remainder of the danger to which they expoſed their liberties, through the deluſion under which they acted. Doctrines big with danger to the conſtitution had been broached within the two laſt years, firſt by a Noble Lord [Shelburne], and now by the miniſter, who had received his political inſtruction at the foot of that Gamaliel. By the ſpeech the King was made to ſay, "That the people expected unanimous exertions on the part of the Houſe." Thus the people were taught to paſs by the door of the Houſe, where their complaints ought naturally to be lodged, and to ſupplicate the throne for the protection of their liberties. Hence the diſſolution of the late parliament, pretendedly in obedience to the ſenſe of the people. He warned the people to beware of this double Houſe of Commons; a Houſe of Commons in parliament aſſembled, and a Houſe of Commons collected, from corporations and county-meetings; an artful miniſter would not fail to play one againſt the other. Such a one would make uſe of a pliant Houſe of Commons to oppreſs the people; and of a deluded people, to awe a refractory parliament.—The Eaſt-India bill had been made a ſpecious pretext for the diſſolution. It was repreſented as a violent attack upon the franchiſes of the people, an invaſion of the royal prerogative, and a medium by which the late miniſters intended to have ſecured themſelves in power, paramount to every other power in the kingdom. But the reverſe of all this was the truth. The India bill was intended to take the power out of the hands of men who had groſsly abuſed it; who had plundered and made miſerable millions of people; who had involved themſelves in ruinous, unjuſt, and expenſive wars, and of courſe had brought infamy and diſgrace upon their country; and to place it in the hands of men of probity and honour: and as to the patronage ſo much dreaded, he could aſſure the Houſe, that the perſons who were to have been at the head of the Company's affairs had been buſied in deviſing means by which they might put it

moſt

moſt effectually out of their own or any other's power to derive any emolument or parliamentary ſupport from their ſituation. But had it been otherwiſe, miniſters could not conſtitutionally aſſign that as a reaſon for the diſſolution. In the firſt place, the King ought not to have known that ſuch a bill was in exiſtence; and, in the next, the Houſe had a right to entertain whatever bills they pleaſed, even to the lopping off a branch of the royal prerogative; and if ever the day ſhould come, that any individual member, or the Houſe itſelf, ſhould be made reſponſible for a part taken in any bill, on that day would the liberties of England expire. This, he ſaid, was the time to oppoſe doctrines which ſeemed to be gaining ground. A Noble Earl [Shelburne] had often talked of the balance of the different branches of the conſtitution. He reprobated the idea. A Noble Duke [Richmond], in his letter to the volunteers of Ireland, had rejected it. He would not allow the King a negative on the acts of both houſes of parliament, as it would be ſtrange indeed that one man ſhould be entruſted with the power of counteracting the collective wiſdom of the whole kingdom.—He concluded a long and animated ſpeech with inſiſting, that if the meaſures of the late parliament were unconſtitutional, they ought to be condemned and cenſured; if, on the other hand, they were ſtrictly conſtitutional, they ought to be maintained and defended by the preſent parliament, as the laſt parliament was ſaid to have been put to death for ſupporting them. Mr Burke then handed to the chair, as containing his motion, ſeveral ſheets of paper, which was a kind of manifeſto, in the ſhape of an addreſs to the King. It took the Speaker an hour in reading, and was a beautiful defence of the late Houſe of Commons, as well as a ſevere cenſure on adminiſtration. It concludes with the following paragraph.—"If therefore, in the arduous affairs recommended to us, our proceedings ſhould be ill adapted, feeble, and ineffectual; if no delinquency ſhould be prevented, and no delinquent ſhould be called to account; if every perſon ſhould be careſſed, promoted, and raiſed in power, in proportion to the enormity of his offences; if no relief ſhould be given to any of the natives unjuſtly diſpoſſeſſed of their rights, juriſdictions, and properties; if no cruel and unjuſt exactions ſhould be forborne; if the ſource of no peculation, or oppreſſive gain, ſhould be cut off; if, by the omiſſion of the opportunities that were in our hands, our Indian empire ſhould fall into ruin irretrievable, and in its fall cruſh the credit, and overwhelm the revenues of this country, we ſtand acquitted to our honour, and to our conſcience, who have reluctantly ſeen the weightieſt intereſts of our country, at times the moſt critical to its dignity and ſafety, rendered the ſport of the inconſiderate and unmeaſured ambition of individuals, and by that means the wiſdom of his Majeſty's government degraded in the public eſtimation, and the policy and character of this renowned nation rendered contemptible in the eyes of all Europe."

Mr Wyndham ſeconded the motion, which was negatived without debate or diviſion.

Mr Alderman Sawbridge, June 16. again introduced his long propoſed parliamentary reform.

Mr Milne, as a friend to the reform, begged he would conſent to put it off till next ſeſſion, when he thought it might be brought on with much greater proſpect of ſucceſs.

Mr Wilberforce joined in the requeſt on the ſame ground.

Mr Sawbridge ſaid, he wiſhed firſt to hear whether the Chancellor of the Exchequer had any propoſition to make on the ſubject.—Upon this

Mr Pitt roſe: he ſaid, he was ſtill of the ſame mind that he had been of ſince the beginning of the ſeſſion: he did not at this moment ſee any proſpect of ſucceſs from the Hon. Gentleman's motion; if he did, he certainly would call upon him to proceed with it: but this he would pledge himſelf to the Houſe to do—to bring on the buſineſs himſelf early in the next ſeſſion of parliament: he was a decided and unalterable friend to a reform; and though the motion which the Hon. Magiſtrate intended to make this evening ſhould fail, ſtill he would hold himſelf bound to bring the buſineſs on early in the next ſeſſion, but without pledging himſelf at this moment to the ſpecific propoſition that he ſhould make; in the choice of which, he ſhould be guided by his judgement, and ſhould prefer that which ſhould hold out to him the greateſt proſpect of ſucceſs.

Mr Fox ſaid, he had not heard any reaſon that could convince him that this

was not a favourable moment for bringing on the buſineſs; on the contrary, from a number of concurring circumſtances, he was perſuaded, that if the Rt Hon. Gentleman was ſincere in his profeſſions of attachment to the cauſe of reform, he was perſuaded that this was the moment when it might be propoſed with a certainty of ſucceſs.

Mr Sawbridge was of the ſame opinion with Mr Fox; for he ſaid, that gentlemen being juſt returned from their elections, had freſh in their minds the inſtructions of their conſtituents; and therefore not a moment ought to be loſt in bringing forward the buſineſs of reform, particularly as the miniſter was a friend to it, and as he was ſupported by a majority which boaſted much of ſpeaking the ſenſe of the people: and as the ſenſe of the people was for a reform, thoſe who ſpoke their ſenſe would vote for the propoſition that he ſhould ſubmit to the Houſe. He then moved, "That a committee be appointed to inquire into the ſtate of the repreſentation of the Commons of Great Britain in parliament."

Mr Alderman Newnham ſeconded the motion.

Sir R. Hill began, in his uſual ſhrewd ſarcaſtical ſcripture ſtyle, with citing the words of Solomon, *There is a time for all things.* He would ſubmit, he ſaid, to the worthy Alderman [Sawbridge], whom he underſtood to be ſuperior to Hoyle at whiſt: If a company of his friends were to come in the middle of the night, and rouſe him from his ſleep to make a party, whether, in ſpite of all his predilection, he would not ſay, "My friends, you have choſen a very unſeaſonable time: come to-morrow, and I am your man." In the like predicament ſtood the miniſter at preſent. For his part, he was a friend to the ſubject in general; but, conceiving the country to be in a ſtate of atrophy of late, he thought a hot regimen would rather tend to inflame than to reſtore the conſtitution. He did not, he ſaid, perfectly know what the Speaker's ſentiments might be with reſpect to the repreſentation and the ſhort duration of parliament; but he believed he would very readily agree to a propoſition for moderating of motions, and ſhortening the duration of debates. After ſeveral other pointed alluſions to a late proceeding, he concluded with another ſaying of Solomon: *The word of the angry man provoketh ſtrife, and the language of the meek man turneth away anger.*

After a long debate, in which Mr Pitt, Mr Fox, Ld Surrey, and ſeveral others, ſpoke in ſupport of the queſtion, and Ld North, Ld Mulgrave, and others, againſt it, Ld Mulgrave moved the previous queſtion, which was carried, Ayes 199, Noes 125.

In a committee of ſupply on the navy-extraordinaries, June 18. Mr Brett informed the committee, that the eſtimates were the ſame as laſt year; he therefore moved for 701,895 l. for the navy extraordinaries; which being agreed to, he moved for 100,000 l. towards building and repairing ſhips, which was likewiſe granted.

Mr Alderman Newnham then roſe, agreeable, he ſaid, to the inſtructions of his conſtituents, to move for the repeal of the receipt-tax. He deſcribed the tax as oppreſſive, hard to collect, partial in its operation, diſagreeable to the trading part of the kingdom, and particularly burdenſome to the city of London.

Mr Sawbridge ſeconded the motion.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer ſaid, in conſequence of the new regulations, this tax had been rendered infinitely more efficacious than it had been, and it was now growing more and more productive. About twelve thouſand pounds had been received upon it in town only, ſince the 24th of March laſt, when the new bill commenced its operation; its produce, therefore, as far as had been ſeen at preſent, amounted to one hundred thouſand a-year; and as he could not conceive it had yet had a fair trial, he was inclined to believe that its produce would continue to increaſe, and become a ſtill greater object than it was already. He believed that it was growing leſs unpopular, and that the prejudices raiſed againſt it were diminiſhing daily. To give up a tax ſo productive, therefore, ſo important in its produce, and ſo equal and ſo eaſy in its burden, at a time when other new taxes muſt neceſſarily be impoſed, and when we had no reſources to waſte, would, he flattered himſelf, neither be deemed prudent nor adviſable by the Houſe. For that reaſon, he ſhould think he did no more than his duty in oppoſing any motion that had the repeal of the receipt-tax for its object.

Mr Fox agreed with Mr Pitt, that the tax was now much leſs unpopular than it had

had been a year ago; from which circumſtance he was confirmed in the opinion which he had entertained from the beginning, that the clamour raiſed againſt the tax was merely artificial. Had the parliament given way to the prejudices of the people in the firſt inſtance, a tax would have been given up, which now bids fair to be very productive; and which has this happy quality, that while it raiſes a large revenue, it by no means falls upon the poor. There was no man would go farther than he would, in obedience to the ſenſe of his conſtituents; but if he found that, led by a wild deluſion, they were hurrying on their own deſtruction, he ſhould hold himſelf a parricide, if, by a blind obedience to them on ſuch an occaſion, he ſhould ſuffer them to involve themſelves and their poſterity in ruin.

After more debate, there appeared, on the diviſion, for the motion 29, againſt it 118.

On June 21. Mr Whitbread complained to the Houſe of the practice of many perſons in trade, by whom the tax on receipts was wholly evaded, while others who were willing to obey the laws, religiouſly paid the duty on receipts. He then held in his hand a paper, which he had received from a friend, which was ſubſtantially intended for a receipt, tho' in point of form it might not perhaps be thought one: the form of it was this—"Memorandum"—So much paid on ſuch a day, on account of Mr ——. Witneſs, ***. He ſaid, he would not mention the names of thoſe in whoſe houſe this memorandum was given; it was enough for him to ſay, it was a houſe which was generally underſtood to clear little ſhort of 50,000 l. a year.—He ſaid, he thought it his duty to throw out theſe obſervations, that thoſe whoſe duty it more particularly was to watch over the evaſions of the law, might turn their attention to ſuch as were openly, and in the face of day, practiſed with reſpect to the receipt-tax.

Mr Attorney-General ſaid, he would take time to conſider the memorandum; and if he ſhould be of opinion that it was a receipt within the ſtatute, he ſhould certainly proſecute the perſon who had given it.

The Houſe then reſolved itſelf into a committee to take into conſideration the report from the committee on ſmuggling.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer roſe, and made a long ſpeech, which conſiſted principally of calculations and figures. He obſerved, that the illicit trade of the kingdom had of late years been carried to an amazing height, and very alarming to the revenue in many of its branches, but more particularly in the article of tea, which, he ſaid, would appear very ſtrikingly from this circumſtance, that though no more than 5,500,000 lb. weight of tea were ſold annually by the Eaſt-India Company, it appeared from good authority, that there were conſumed annually in this kingdom, from 12 to 13,000,000 lb. ſo that the illicit trade in this article was more than double the legal trade. To meet this evil, and remove it, it had ſtruck the committee, that the beſt poſſible plan for that purpoſe was, to lower the duty on tea, to ſuch a degree, as to take away from the ſmuggler the temptation to carry on an illegal trade. This idea met his hearty approbation; but as the revenue could not afford a diminution at preſent, it would be neceſſary to propoſe a new tax, as a ſubſtitute, in order to raiſe as much money as would be loſt by lowering the duty on tea. The amount of the tea at preſent was between 7 or 800,000 l. it was his intention, not to raiſe upon tea in future above 169,000 l. ſo that there would be a falling off of at leaſt 600,000 l. per annum. His reaſon for lowering the duty at all was, that he might take away the temptation to ſmuggling, by diminiſhing the profits of it; but there was no occaſion, in order to effect this purpoſe, to take off the whole of the duty. The nature of the illicit trade was pretty well underſtood; the market price of tea in the foreign markets was well known: It was well known alſo, that the price of inſurance, in ſo hazardous a trade, and the freight, were about 25 l. per cent. to the ſhore; that the inſurance for the inland carriage on it in this kingdom was about 10 l. per cent. more; and the profit upon the whole he would not reckon at more than 5 per cent. becauſe the voyage from the continent to England might be very often repeated in the courſe of the year; ſo that at 5 per cent. might upon the whole of the ſmuggler's capital, be reckoned in the end at 40 per cent. per ann. From the expences attending the ſea and inland inſurances, freight and profit, it was clear that the ſmuggler muſt ſell at 40 per cent. above the prime

coſt. Now his plan was to take off all the exciſe-duties on tea, and impoſe a cuſtom duty of

L. 12	10 per cent.	ad valorem on	Bohea,
25	0 ditto	ditto	Souchong,
30	0 ditto	ditto	Singlo,
35	0 ditto	ditto	Hyſon,
40	0 ditto	ditto	Congou.

The quantity of tea legally imported into this kingdom, appeared from the Company's ſales; the quantity ſold for exportation at Canton, in China, was eaſily aſcertained; the conſumption of the different countries on the continent was pretty well known, which deducted from the quantity ſold at Canton, it was evident that the reſt muſt be brought into England; and from this calculation he eſtimated the home conſumption at thirteen millions of pounds. There was another way of eſtimating it. He reckoned the people of England to be in number 6,000,000, in which calculation he knew he was conſiderably under the mark; of theſe, about 2,000,000 would, according to his plan, be relieved from the payment of the preſent duty on tea, without being obliged to contribute a farthing towards the tax which he ſhould propoſe as a ſubſtitution: the other four millions, he calculated, would, one with another, conſume 3 lb. of tea each in the year; for each pound of which, they pay at preſent on an average, 2 s. 7 d. duty: the principal part of it being taken off, they could afford to pay to a ſubſtituted tax, which he propoſed to raiſe in this way:

	£.	s.	d.
On every Houſe having under 7 windows, -	0	3	0
having 7 - -	0	6	0
—— 8 - -	0	8	0
—— 9 - -	0	10	6
—— 10 - -	0	13	0
—— 11 - -	0	15	6
—— 12 - -	0	18	0
—— 13 - -	1	1	0
—— 14 then increaſing 5 s. for every window to 24	1	5	0
—— 25 and not more than 29, and then increaſing 10 s. for every 5 windows to 99 windows inclulive, -	4	0	0
—— 100 and not more than 109, and then 1 l. for every 10 windows to 180 widows, -	12	0	0
—— 180 and upwards,	20	0	0

This would produce above 700,000 l. ſo that, with the new duty on tea, the produce would be near 900,000 l. By this plan, the public revenue would be conſiderably a gainer, and yet the people would have no reaſon to complain of additional burdens, as they would be ſavers by the plan. For inſtance, a houſe which ſhould be rated at 10 s. 6 d. would have a number of inhabitants ſufficient to conſume 7 lb. of tea at 7 s. per pound, which would come to 1 l 5 s. 10 d. the whole of which being taken off, and in lieu of it a tax of 10 s. 6 d. being laid on, there would be a ſaving to the family, by this new mode, of 15 s. 4 d. In England, Scotland, and Wales, there were 782,077 houſes, which might be divided into the following different claſſes:

Under 7 windows each,	286,296
From 8 to 10 ditto, -	211,483
11 ditto, - -	38,324
12 to 13, - -	25,919
14 to 19, - -	67,652
20 and upwards, -	52,403
In Scotland, -	17,734

Of theſe about 200,000, as being excuſed from the houſe-tax, would pay nothing to this new tax; and the inhabitants, being the poorer ſort, would be delivered from the duty on tea.—The great benefit, then, that would ariſe from this new regulation, would be in the firſt place, the checking, or rather the abſolute ruin, of the ſmuggling trade. Another benefit would be, that the fair trader would be relieved in a great meaſure from the diſagreeable viſits of exciſe officers. The Eaſt-India Company would alſo be benefited in an eminent degree, by having to ſupply the whole kingdom with tea, when ſmuggling ſhould be got under, inſtead of leſs than one half; or, in other words, would find a vent for 13,000,000 of pounds of tea, inſtead of 5,500,000; and two happy conſequences would flow from this circumſtance, that the Company would be enabled to take twenty more large ſhips into their ſervice, and find employment for 2000 additional ſeamen, a circumſtance in itſelf of great national importance: A plan therefore which had all this to recommend it, and which would increaſe the public revenue, at the ſame time that it made a ſaving to the people, would, he hoped, meet the approbation of the Houſe, and of the nation at large. He foreſaw two objections might be ſtarted to the plan: one was, that the India Company having the market excluſively to themſelves, might

might avail themſelves of the monopoly, to raiſe the prices of tea. To this objection he anſwered, That he did not believe they would do ſo, becauſe it would obviouſly be their intereſt not to do it; for as the ſmugglers now carry on their trade againſt the high duties, in this caſe they would carry it on againſt the high prices; and that illicit trade would be reſtored, which it was now the wiſh of the Company to reſtrain and deſtroy.—But not to truſt to the diſcretion of the Company, or leave the people at their mercy, he would propoſe, that if ever the price of tea at the Company's ſales ſhould exceed a given price, then the ports of the kingdom ſhould be thrown open for the importation of tea from the continent. Another objection was, that where a perſon might happen to have more houſes than one or two, it would be a hardſhip upon him to make him pay for them all: in ſuch a caſe, he propoſed that he ſhould pay for two of them; and even then, he ſaid, the owner would be a gainer by the plan. He concluded by moving, that the preſent duties on tea do ceaſe; and in their room, he moved the 12l. 10s. on bohea, and ſo on for other teas, as mentioned in the beginning. He alſo moved above thirty different reſolutions, relative to the different claſſes of houſes, and the different taxes that were to be impoſed upon them.

Mr Eden ſaid, he was ready to expreſs his hearty approbation of the principle of the plan; whatever objections he might have to particular parts of it, would be more properly urged when the bills that ſhould be ordered in ſhould get into the committee. He did not think that the opening the ports for the importation of teas from the continent would anſwer the end of keeping down the price of the Eaſt-India Company's tea, if they ſhould be ſo imprudent as to attempt to raiſe it: for though the warehouſes on the continent were at this moment full of tea, it was merely becauſe this country had hitherto afforded a great vent for that article, that ſuch great quantities had been imported by our neighbours: it certainly was not for their own conſumption; for it was very well known, that very little tea indeed is uſed on the continent, in compariſon with what is conſumed in England; and therefore, as, by the illicit trade being cut off, there would be no means to ſend any of this tea from the continent into this country, very little more of this article would be brought to Europe by our neighbours; and therefore the reſource of opening our ports for foreign teas, in caſe of any emergency, would fail us. He did not expect much benefit from theſe regulations juſt at the moment; for, as he had ſaid before, the warehouſes on the continent being ſtored, the ſmuggler would pour in as great quantities as poſſible immediately, and ſell rather at a loſs, than keep the commodity in hand, till the time ſhould come when he could find no market for it. He did not agree entirely in all the calculations made by the Right Hon. Gentleman; but in moſt of them he did: and therefore, if the new regulations ſhould happen to prove unpopular, he was ready to take his ſhare of the unpopularity.

Mr Gaſcoyne ſenior was of opinion, that ſome regulation ought to take place reſpecting tea-gardens, &c. where there was a vaſt conſumption of tea, and where the new window-duty would bear no proportion to the loſs that would be ſuſtained by the lowering of the duty on that article. In Greenwich, and other hoſpitals, there was a great conſumption, where no window-tax would be paid, and where of courſe there would be a heavy loſs by lowering the duty.

Mr Pitt ſaid, he certainly would introduce a regulation relative to public tea-gardens, &c. by raiſing the price of the licence, or by ſome other way. As to the circumſtance of the hoſpitals, they did not enter into his calculations, and therefore would make for, and not againſt them.

Sir Peter Burrell obſerved, that if a gentleman was to be charged for two houſes, he could not in fairneſs be charged with full conſumption of tea in both houſes; but as he might reſide ſometimes in one houſe, and ſometimes in the other, he might be ſuppoſed to conſume one half of his tea in one, the other half in the other; but if he ſhould be ſuppoſed to conſume as much as if both houſes were at one and the ſame time inhabited by equally numerous families, he would then be a loſer, and not a gainer, by the new regulation.

Mr Pitt ſet the Hon. Member right on this head; and he ſhewed him, that even upon his own ſtatement, he would be a gainer by it. He would ſuppoſe the moſt extreme caſe, that a gentleman ſhould have one houſe with 180 windows, and another

another with 60; the number of perſons in both might be eſtimated together at 50; theſe would conſume, one with another, four pounds of tea, the groſs duty on which would be 47 l.: now the new duty on the 180 windows would be 20 l. and on the 60, 7 l.: ſo that, even in this extreme caſe, there would be a ſaving of 20 l.

Mr Dempſter ſaid, the plan was good, in as much as it would relieve thoſe who drink tea, by the taking off a heavy, and laying on a light tax: but it would be a hardſhip on thoſe who do not drink tea; for the plan would lay upon them a new tax, without taking an old one away. He wiſhed that ſome means might be deviſed for ſettling this plan according to the value of the houſes, and not according to the number of windows; for there were a great many very poor houſes, particularly in Scotland, that had as many windows as houſes of twenty times their value in London. The people of Scotland would therefore be ſufferers on this head, as well as by making them compound for drinking their tea cheap, when it was very well known that great numbers of them never taſte tea.

Mr Roſe ſaid, there could not be a more unſatisfactory mode of eſtimating the quantum to be paid by any one towards the new tax, than by the value of houſes; he could inform the Hon. Member, that the Scotch would have very little cauſe to complain, as they at preſent pay no more than 3000 l. towards the houſe-tax, upon which the new one will be in a great meaſure modelled.

The reſolutions were at length put and carried.

Third Report of the Committee appointed to inquire into the Illicit Practices uſed in defrauding the Revenue, continued. [*p.* 236.]

16. IN order to encourage the diſcovery of frauds, it is recommended by the commiſſioners of exciſe, that every informer ſhould be allowed the full value of his moiety of the ſeizure, or the penalty, and ſhould be paid within a limited time: The deductions and delays attending the preſent ſyſtem are great diſcouragements.

17. The ſame reaſoning which makes certainty and diſpatch expedient to promote informations, will apply alſo to the enforcing of penalties; which will operate more effectually than they are at preſent found to do, if the fine and impriſonment in the ſeveral inſtances were ſettled and decided, and the practice of mitigation leſſened, as alſo the practice of compounding proſecutions, and the more pernicious cuſtom of compounding for ſeized veſſels, under an appraiſed value.

Your committee cannot cloſe this head without obſerving, that the Engliſh commiſſioners of exciſe have mentioned the preſent ſtate and eſtabliſhment of their own ſummary juriſdiction as well deſerving an entire reviſion, in order to form conſiderable changes for the more effectual diſcharge of their duty, and for the general advantage of the public.

18. The facility which illicit traders derive from the colluſions of the inferior revenue-officers will alſo merit a very ſerious attention. Thoſe colluſions operate with regard to the running of goods in remote parts of the coaſt, and in ports; and occaſionally to the allowances made upon the quays at the time of the diſcharge, in weight, gauge, and meaſure; and alſo in the whole buſineſs of ſeizures, clandeſtine compoſitions, connivances, and other practices in the internal management. From the infirmity of human nature, it is impoſſible to ſuppoſe that ſuch colluſions can be totally prevented: but the Scotch commiſſioners of the cuſtoms are of opinion that much benefit in this particular would reſult from a total abolition of fees, gratuities, and rewards, of every denomination, and from an increaſe in the ſalaries, which in many inſtances are inadequate to the maintenance of the officers. Several of the revenue-boards concur in opinion, that the good effects to be expected from ſuch an arrangement would amply repay the expence to be incurred thereby, as tending both to ſecure the integrity of the inferior officers, and to add to their zeal. The Scotch commiſſioners add, that in caſe the plan for ſubſtituting ſalaries in lieu of fees ſhould not be adopted, it would contribute to the ſecurity of the revenue, to render their officers independent of the traders, by giving them the like remedy for enforcing payment of their fees as the officers of the port of London claim. They refer, on this ſubject, to an order of the Houſe of Commons, dated May 17. 1662, and recommend that the fees ſhould be ſuch only as have been eſtabliſhed by cuſtom at the reſpective ports, and are not forbidden by law.

19. It has alſo been ſuggeſted to your committee, as a meaſure which might tend to ſecure the revenue, and protect the conſumption ſubject to exciſe or cuſtoms, that traders ſhould be obliged not only to take out a licence annually, but alſo to give bond, and find proper ſecurity, that they will not, directly or indirectly, be concerned in ſmuggling, or in endeavouring to evade the duties impoſed on the ſaid articles. How far this regulation is practicable, without expoſing trade to great embarraſſment, your committee will not decide; but they mention the ſubject merely

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as a ſuggeſtion to your committee from more than one reſpectable quarter.

20. It is a remark of the Scotch commiſſioners of the cuſtoms, that "all prohibitions may be conſidered as introductions to clandeſtine trade; for as they generally extend to ſuch articles as are in great eſtimation and repute, it follows, that if ſuch cannot be had legally, attempts will be made to procure them clandeſtinely. If, therefore, ſuitable duties were to be ſubſtituted in the room of prohibitions, it would evidently tend to the advantage of the revenue."

Your committee are aware that this idea, however founded on a wiſe principle, both of trade and revenue, cannot be generally adopted, without inconvenience to ſome popular branches of manufacture; they conceive, however, that the great extent which has gradually been given to prohibitions may well deſerve the conſideration of the Houſe, as being one great inducement to the illicit practices.

Under this head it may not be immaterial to advert alſo to the oppoſite ſyſtem of bounties, which, when given, without due conſideration, to undeſerving or hopleſs objects of encouragement, are not to be conſidered as a mere unavailing expence, the miſchief of which is confined to the quantum of the ſums paid; bounties in general are open to frauds, and in many inſtances operate to the ſupport of illicit trade.

21. The Scotch commiſſioners of the cuſtoms obſerve, that by the acts 8 Anne, ch. 13. and 5 Geo. I. ch. 11. bonds given for the exportation of certificate goods to Ireland muſt not be delivered up, nor any drawback allowed for any goods, till a certificate, under the hands of the collector and comptroller, and ſurveyor of the cuſtoms, or any two of them, of ſome port in Ireland, be produced, teſtifying the landing thereof; ſuch bonds to be with condition to produce ſuch certificate in ſix months from the date thereof: But that this regulation being confined to goods entitled to drawback, it ſeems proper that it ſhould be extended to all goods entitled to any bounty or allowance whatever upon exportation to Ireland.

22. It has been recommended to your committee by the ſame board, for the accommodation of trade, that all high-duty goods be allowed to be warehouſed at importation, in warehouſes to be provided, to the ſatisfaction of the proper officers, at the importer's expence, and under the joint locks of the King and proprietor; ſubject only to the payment of duties for the ſame when taken out of the warehouſe for home conſumption; and that, if taken out for exportation, the ſame be delivered free of all duties whatever; but if not taken out, for home conſumption or exportation, within three years, the goods to be ſold for the ſatisfaction of the home-conſumption duties, and the reſidue of the produce, if any, to be paid to the proprietor of the goods; no allowance to be made for any diminution of the goods warehouſed, by whatever means ſuch diminution may have happened, nor any drawback allowed after the goods have been taken out for home conſumption, and the duties once ſatisfied. It is alſo propoſed, that each delivery of goods from the warehouſe ſhould be of ſufficient quantities for the accomodation of the officers, who would otherwiſe be ſubjected to great hardſhips by the neceſſity of too frequent attendances. Were leave thus given to the merchant to warehouſe goods, and to take the ſame from the warehouſes for exportation, free of duty, great temptations to fraud would be effectually removed: Under the preſent ſyſtem much diſtreſs frequently ariſes from the want of ready money to ſatisfy the duties at the time of importation, and various artifices are made uſe of to obtain drawbacks fraudulently; by which there can be no doubt that the revenue ſuffers conſiderably, probably more than it gains by the ſums retained at preſent for goods intended to be exported.

Your committee will illuſtrate this reaſoning by the following remark: We will ſuppoſe the groſs receipt of the cuſtoms upon any particular ſpecies of goods to be 50,000l. and the drawbacks to be 20,000l.—The real gain to the revenue will be only 30,000l. the merchant, however, is obliged to pay down the whole 50,000l. and though afterwards, on exporting a certain proportion of the goods, he receives back 20,000l. he muſt, in the mean time, eſtimate the intereſt of the groſs ſum; and the intereſt of the 20,000l. muſt either be charged in the foreign markets, to which he will conſequently go with a diſadvantage; or it will be charged on the proportion ſold for home conſumption, whereby the public is fruitleſsly burdened, and the temptation to clandeſtine trade increaſed.

23. Your committee cannot diſmiſs theſe general conſiderations, without recommending ſuch meaſures as may be neceſſary to aſſiſt in ſimplifying and conſolidating the ſeveral branches of the cuſtoms, and in reforming the book of Rates. It might be thought a digreſſion from the immediate object of inquiry, if any detail of thoſe meaſures were attempted. Your committee therefore will only add, that the encouragements to which merchants are entitled, the duties to which they are ſubject, and the penalties to which they are expoſed, ought not to be involved in a cloud of complicated materials, and abſtruſe ſcience; and that the intereſts of the revenue, as well as of trade, will be benefited

ed by the reform recommended in this section.

24. The great and infallible remedy towards the prevention of frauds againſt the revenue is, undoubtedly, to be fought only in the reduction of duties: It is natural that the increaſe of ſmuggling ſhould bear a proportion to the temptation. The profits preſented to adventurers, by the high duties upon tea, foreign ſpirits, and tobacco, certainly gave birth, and give ſupport, to the expenſive and piratical ſyſtems under which the ſmugglers have lately acted. All that can be ſaid on this ſubject is too obvious to be ſtated. It is poſſible that in the event of ſome of the high duties being lowered, the revenue would be finally benefited; and it is certain that the ſmuggling practices would be diminiſhed, at leaſt as to the particular articles affected by thoſe duties; it is equally certain, that ſuch a diminution would collaterally be attended with many advantages to the public. But the experiment is of ſuch delicacy in reſpect to public credit, and of ſuch riſk and magnitude in every point of view, that your committee cannot be expected to give preciſe opinions reſpecting it. They will attempt however to illuſtrate it, in diſcuſſing the means of prevention as applicable to the revenue ariſing from tea It is very certain, that, whilſt the temptation is allowed to remain in full force, no permanent relief is to be expected, either from the deſtruction of the inſtruments of miſchief, or from ſeverities exerciſed againſt individuals who uſe thoſe inſtruments.

25. TEA] This article is ſo eaſily adapted to clandeſtine conveyance, is ſo highly taxed here, in proportion to its prime coſt upon the continent of Europe, and is, at the ſame time, of ſuch general conſumption in this kingdom, that it may be conſidered as the chief ſupport of that combined ſyſtem of force and fraud which is employed with ſo much ſucceſs againſt our revenue. The firſt queſtion, then, which preſents itſelf in this part of our inquiry is, whether, if the whole duties upon tea, payable both to cuſtoms and exciſe, were taken off, the revenue dependent on this article of taxation would not be compenſated by the reſulting advantages? Such a meaſure would undoubtedly deprive the ſmuggler of the principal inducement to his practices, ſo injurious to fair trade and regular commerce, ſo pernicious to the manners and morals of the people, and ſo deſtructive of all good government In its conſequences, it would alſo prove an effectual relief to the Eaſt-India Company, and would be peculiarly well-timed, as no leſs than 20 ſhips are expected to arrive, within a ſhort period, from China; and as it is eſtimated, that above 20,000,000 lb. of tea may be in the Company's warehouſes, unſold, previous to the next September ſale. The future and permanent advantages accruing from ſuch a meaſure, both to that Company, and to the general navigation of theſe kingdoms; and alſo by retaining a very conſiderable ſum, which is now annually remitted to the continent of Europe, are too obvious to be deſcribed.

It ſeems reaſonable to preſume that under ſuch a plan the tea legally conſumed in Britain would not be leſs than 13,000,000 lb. annually; at preſent it is rather leſs than 6,000,000 lb. The legal import of tea upon ſu h an alteration, would employ thirty-eight large ſhips, and about 4500 ſeamen, conſtantly in the China trade, inſtead of eighteen ſmaller ſhips, and about 2000 ſeamen.

Your committee ought, however, to remark, that theſe important and extenſive objects will be equally attained without incurring a riſk ſo much beyond what the general ſtate of the revenue and public credit can bear, if any equitable and productive ſubſtitute can be found for the preſent tax upon tea; or if it can be ſufficiently aſcertained, that a conſiderable reduction of the tea duties would be compenſated to the revenue, by extending the legal import and conſumption of that commodity. With reſpect to the firſt of thoſe alterations, it has been ſuggeſted to your committee, that if an account were taken of all houſes in the kingdom liable to the window tax, which conſume tea, (and there are few of that deſcription in which tea is not conſumed), the preſent produce of the tea duties might be aſſeſſed and rated upon the windows of ſuch houſes. The management of the window tax is ſo well arranged and ſettled, that ſuch a plan, if not liable to other objections, would at leaſt have the advantage of being executed eaſily, and without expence. From other calculations on this ſubject, which have been laid before your committee, it is propoſed, that each houſe inhabited, and charged with the window tax, as by the publiſhed liſt, be alſo charged in the following proportions, per annum.

Houſes under			s.	d.	£.
7 windows each,	286,296	at	10	6	150,305
8 to 10 ditto	211,483	at	16	6	169,186
11 ditto -	38 324	at	21	0	40,240
12 to 13 ditto -	25,919	at	31	6	40,821
14 to 19 ditto -	67,652	at	42	0	142,069
20 and upwards -	52,403	at	70	0	182,410
England and Wales	682,077	Houſes			716,032
Scotland	17,734	at	10	6	9 310
Houſes	699 811				735,342

Some of theſe might be rated much higher, and produce 100,000 l. more.

The

The following ſtatement will ſhew the advantage ariſing to thoſe whoſe houſes would be thus taxed, in lieu of the cuſtoms and exciſe.

PRICES of TEA at the Company's ſales, on an average of ten years, from March 1773 to Sept. 1782, inclusive, diſcount deducted, out of which the Company paid the cuſtoms.

	BOHEA.	CONGOU.	SOUCHONG.	SINGLO.	HYSON.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Price	2 4 per lb.	4 4 per lb.	5 2 per lb.	4 3 per lb.	8 5 per lb.
Exciſe on the ſame, paid by the buyers	1 11	2 6	2 10	2 6	3 11
Coſt the buyers in 1782	4 3	6 10	8 0	6 9	12 4
Would coſt in the propoſed plan	1 8	2 5	3 3	3 3	5 7
Saved by the conſumer	2 7 per lb.	4 4 per lb.	4 9 per lb.	3 6 per lb.	6 8 per lb.

A family living in a houſe under ſeven windows, charged with the window tax, may be eſtimated to conſume 10 lbs. of tea.

	l. s. d.
Saved as above, 2 s. 7 d. per lb. or	1 5 10
Deduct tax on houſe -	0 10 6
Clear gain per annum by this plan	0 15 4
7 to 10 windows 15 lbs. of Bohea, at 2 s. 7 d. per lb. or -	1 18 9
Deduct tax on the houſe -	0 16 0
Saved	1 2 9
Saved on 11 windows, 12 lb Congou & Singlo. 1 lb Con. 4 s. 5 d. 1 lb. Sin. 3 s 6 d. } 12 lb. 3 s. 11 d.	2 7 0
7 11	
Average 3 s. 11 d. 3 lb. Hyſon 6 s. 8 d. ditto	1 0 0
	3 7 0
Deduct tax on the houſe	1 1 0
12 to 13 windows 8 lb. Congou and Singlo at 3 s. 11 d. or	2 6 0
8 lb. Hyſon at 6 s. 8 d. or	1 11 4
	2 13 4
	4 4 8
Deduct tax on the houſe	1 11 6
14 to 19 windows 16 lb. Hyſon, at 6 s. 8 d. per lb. or - -	2 13 2
Deduct tax on the houſe	5 6 8
	2 2 3
20 windows and upwards 28 lb. Hyſon at 6 s. 8 d. or -	3 4 8
Deduct tax on the houſe	8 0 0
	3 13 0
	L. 4 10 0

In the reſult, the whole family within ſuch houſes would purchaſe their tea at about one half of the preſent legal price; and even thoſe who ſmuggle at preſent would, in that event, have it much cheaper, and without fraud; ſervants, and the lower claſs of people, would have tea free from duty. Excluſive of the various advantages already ſpecified, there would be a conſiderable ſaving in the charges of collecting per annum; and it would alſo remain to be conſidered, whether a ſeparate tax might not reaſonably be impoſed on all tea gardens, taverns, coffeehouſes, and inns.

If, however, a mere reduction in the tea-duties would ſufficiently guard the revenue, by making it impoſſible for the foreign companies to allow to the ſmuggler a profit adequate to his riſk, the whole of this operation would be much facilitated. If, for example, one fourth part of the preſent duties might ſafely be left chargeable upon teas, and it might be expected that double the quantity of what is now legally imported would hereafter pay duty; it would then only be neceſſary to find a ſubſtitute for one half of the revenue which at preſent ariſes from the tea-duties. If the ſame effect might be expected by reducing the duties to one half of what they are at preſent, then it would be unneceſſary to find any new duty in aid of ſuch reduction. And in all theſe propoſitions it well deſerves remark, that the revenue, and the public intereſts in general, will be much benefited collaterally, by the great check which ſuch an operation would give to the whole ſmuggling ſyſtem. Your committee have thought it their duty to ſuggeſt theſe great conſiderations to the Houſe, as deſerving a ſerious diſcuſſion. Similar reaſonings will attach upon other principal articles of revenue to be ſubſequently ſtated.

The Scotch commiſſioners of exciſe ſuggeſt, with a view of checking the internal ſmuggling of tea:—1ſt, That all tea ſent out of London (except in the original package in which it was imported by the Engliſh Eaſt-India Company) ſhall be ſubject to the regulations, with reſpect to packages and permits, provided, as to all other places, by the

ſtatute 21 Geo. III. ch 68.—2dly, That, in order to check the running of great quantities of tea, in parcels under ſix pounds weight, no tea, exceeding two pounds weight, ſhall be removed from one place to another without a permit.—3dly, For the purpoſe of diſcovering and preventing the ſubſtitution and removal of fine ſmuggled tea, under permit for coarſe tea (which has become a very common practice, and which the power given by the act 21 Geo. III. ch. 55. § 25. to take, and pay for a ſample, has not put a ſtop to), it is propoſed, that officers of exciſe ſhall be obliged by law to diſtinguiſh, in their account of ſtock, and in permits, the particular quality of the tea, ſuch as, whether it is fine, ordinary, or coarſe; and alſo, that in permits they mention the kind and number of the packages containing tea: and here they coincide much with what is recommended by the Engliſh board of exciſe for the general regulation of permits.

There is another circumſtance which the Scotch commiſſioners think has tended to facilitate and conceal the ſmuggling the teas in that part of the kingdom, viz. the great number of entered and licenſed dealers in that commodity, who keep but ſmall ſtocks, which are as conſtantly ſupplied by ſmuggled teas brought in without permit, in ſmall quantities, as the old ſtock is decreaſed by retail, without entry. This fraud the commiſſioners are of opinion might be very much corrected, if the ſum to be paid for a licence to retail tea (which now is only 5 s. 6 d.) were made larger, ſo as to bring in a revenue equal to the preſent amount on that branch, although the numbers of dealers ſhould thereby be diminiſhed; which, for the reaſon above aſſigned, they cannot think would be productive of any loſs.

26. TOBACCO.] The abuſes in this article, which are mentioned, in the ſecond report, as reſulting from the allowances of 10 lb. per hogſhead, free of duty, given by the act 24 Geo. II to the importer, for waſte of tobacco; and alſo from a practice of drawing the ſample to the amount of more than 10 lb. per hogſhead, before the tobacco is weighed; were ſtated with a reference to the Scotch revenue, and acknowledged, by many reſpectable importers and manufacturers of tobacco, to prevail in that part of the kingdom: in the preſent ſtate of the carrying trade, ſuch practices are no longer of great importance. The general means of prevention already recommended are all applicable towards the ſecuring this branch of revenue, and moſt eſpecially the reform propoſed in the great abuſe of licences and certificates. The duties, however, upon this article, like thoſe upon tea, are ſo enormous, in proportion to its prime coſt and intrinſic value, that it muſt be expected to continue a principal article of illicit trade.

[*To be continued.*]

SIR, *Edinburgh, May 7.*

IN the pariſh of Monivaird, there is, in Glen-Almon, a ſtone of ſeven feet high, and five in breadth, known by the name of *Cloch Oſſian*, in Engliſh *Oſſian's Stone*, about twelve miles northweſt from Perth. As, at the making of what is called *Wade's Road*, it ſtood in the way of the workmen, it was overturned by machines, and now lies on the eaſt ſide of the road. Hard by it ſtand, yet unmoved, four ſuch grey ſtones as are frequently mentioned in Oſſian's Poems, and there are round the ſpot where lie the aſhes that once compoſed the body of that hero. Round theſe ſtones there is a wall (except where interrupted by the road) of three feet high, and 100 feet in circumference, the whole incloſure being known by the name of *Carn Oſſian*. The great monumental ſtone, and the incloſure ſurrounding it, are alſo often called *Clech* and *Carn a Huſeoig*, i. e. Stone and Heap of the Lark. Though, in theſe appellations, ſome of the words are different, the ſenſe of both perfectly coincides, as the poetical genius of Oſſian was here pointed out to us under the metaphor of a lark. This Highland figure of ſpeech, of giving to their bards the appellation of *Lark*, a muſical bird, remarkable for its ſoaring and ſinging, is much more properly applicable to the tuneful race, than the metaphor of the Latins, who to their poets gave the name of *Swans*, whoſe muſic no man had ever heard. That this was really the monument of Oſſian, is further confirmed by the conſtant tradition of the neighbourhood, that the arms of Fingal's army were made at a place within three or four miles of it, which, at this day, is ſtill from thence called *Rannachairdich*, a name that expreſſes what had been the profeſſion of its inhabitants. Within a few miles of *Carn Oſſian* is a rivulet, on one ſide of which Engliſh is ſpoken, and Gaelic on the other. The people on this laſt ſide are full of endleſs ſtories of Finn Maccoul, Oſſian, and the heroes that were contemporaries of thoſe. At the earneſt deſire of the writer of this paper, thoſe places were viſited by three gentlemen, who gave to him, and are ready to confirm, the above account. This may alſo ſerve to give us ſome light into hiſtory, as it is a proof that the dominion of the Scots, or Albinich, extended ſo far eaſtward in thoſe days, although afterwards, according to the uſual fortune of frontier countries, ſome of them fell into the hands of the people commonly, though erroneouſly, known by the name of *Picts*.

In every country, people are thought to do honour to themſelves, by erecting monuments to perſons of diſtinguiſhed merit. But perhaps no country has ever produced a perſon in whom military virtues and poetical talents have been ſo happily united as they were

were in *Offian*. The few remnants that we have of his poems have been tranſlated into ſeveral languages, and admired in them all; though only they who underſtand the originals can be thoroughly ſenſible of their excellence. And ſhall the country that produced him appear inſenſible or ungrateful to his memory? It is therefore propoſed, that the *Cloch Offian*, which ignorance or malice overturned, ſhall be reſtored to its former place, and a further monument erected, with a ſuitable inſcription. The monument ought not to be adorned with the uſual ornaments of architecture, but ſhould have a pleaſing ſimplicity, ſuitable to the ſimple manners of the times in which he lived. The dimenſions muſt be more or leſs, according to the ſum that can be obtained for that purpoſe. The propoſer of this ſcheme is ready to contribute to the expence, not in proportion to his inclinations, but to his abilities; and it is hoped, that every Scot who honours merit, or who loves the honour of his country, will chearfully join in the undertaking. As ſoon as it is known what ſum can be obtained for this purpoſe, architects ſhall be conſulted, and every proper care taken to further and complete the work. ALBANICUS.

To my learned and much-eſteemed Friend Sir JAMES FOULIS, *of* Collinton, *Bt, I inſcribe this* EPITAPH, *for the Grave of* OSSIAN, *in* Glen Almon.

Roll on, ye dark-brown years! Let ages roll;
And like the waves of ever-moving ocean,
Or leaves of trees, let ſons of men ariſe.
Nor dark-brown years, nor ages rolling on,
The voice of CONA e'er ſhall ceaſe to hear.
Lift up your heads, ye hills of Alpin green!
Lift up your dewy heads the clouds above;
And in the vales let your blue ſtreams rejoice,
Of other times the joy of grief to raiſe:
'The ſong and ſoul of OSSIAN yet remain!'
O ſons of ALPIN! of the ſtrong in arms!
Here fail'd the Hero's ſtrength; and here the tomb
All that could die of CONA's chief receiv'd.
Here, on his ſtaff the tuneful Hero leant,
On his grey hairs the glittering ſun-beam ſhining:
Down to the narrow houſe, with four grey ſtones,
Here did he ſink, by MORA's ſtone, to ſleep.
Cal. Mere. BUCHAN.

On Converſation, and the Manner of gaining Eſteem.

THere are many people who think, if they have good and worthy qualities, that they merit eſteem on that account, and wait for reſpect accordingly. They are right in their opinion, but wrong in their expectations.

'Tis true, virtue, decency, propriety, and ſteadineſs of conduct, are indiſpenſable requiſites in this article; but there are ſeveral leſſer ones of no ſmall conſequence upon the whole.

There is nothing makes a man loſe more in point of eſteem than too much familiarity in converſation. Talking too much of one's ſelf, one's buſineſs, or friends, as if one was a perſon of great conſequence, is ridiculous.

A loud voice; intemperate laughter; too familiar an addreſs, or tone of ſpeech, or geſture, or terms of deſignation; have all a bad effect, and leſſen one in another's eſteem. Giving one's opinion too frankly upon every ſubject, or talking too much ſentiment, have the ſame tendency, and contribute to degrade one in the opinion of others.

Let ſome people call it dullneſs, or what they pleaſe, but ſilence is the beſt policy. Hear others; be not raſh in giving your opinion, even though you are in the right; keep on the reſerve, and when there is a fit opportunity, then let it come in, and it will have the more weight, when it comes. A reſerved perſon almoſt always commands eſteem, if he has good ſenſe; and when ſuch a one chuſes to be free, then is he infinitely more agreeable than one that is always ſo.

One great reaſon why the reſerved gain our eſteem is, that they generally get credit for more than they poſſeſs; for if one is ſilent upon ſubjects that it is well known he is qualified to ſpeak upon, he will be believed to be equally qualified for others he is by no means a match for. Hence ſilent people are oft-times eſteemed more profound and intelligent than they really are.

The chief requiſites to qualify a man for being agreeable in converſation are, knowledge, wit, and politeneſs. The firſt of theſe furniſhes a man with ideas to entertain; the ſecond awakens theſe, and animates them with vivacity; the third checks the overflowings of our own wit, enters into the feelings of others, and inclines us to give them an equal opportunity of contributing their ſhare to the entertainment.

The laſt quality ſeems ſo indiſpenſable, that there can be no real enjoyment without it. It not only makes a man happy and think well of his company, but, which is of much greater conſequence, contented and pleaſed with himſelf. He retires ſatisfied that he has acted a part,

and made himſelf, in ſome meaſure, agreeable to others. And who is there of the feeling of a man that would withhold from another the power of going away poſſeſſed of ſo innocent a gratification?

But here an error is to be guarded againſt, viz. the being too forward in bidding others to a ſhare in the converſation. There are ſome perſons of ſo modeſt or reſerved a caſt, that if, upon their firſt ſilence, they are taken notice of, or called upon to rouſe, they are effectually ſtopt from ſaying any thing at all: their blood runs cold to their heart; they think the whole company are ſtaring at them; they themſelves feel aukward; ſit confirmed in ſilence, and part with diſſatisfaction.

As all men are not alike at all times, and as every one muſt have a reaſon for his ſilence, we ought not to have the ill-breeding to aſk queſtions on this occaſion. Such a freedom deſtroys that liberty which ought to take place in all companies. It is like telling a man to his face, "You muſt not do as you pleaſe, but as it pleaſeth me; you muſt be witty and entertaining, whether you are ſo diſpoſed or not; or whether your health or ſpirits are in uniſon with the time, the ſubject, or the company."

On the other hand, converſation, to be agreeable, muſt be ſpontaneous and free, not impoſed; moderate and chaſtiſed, not impertinent or noiſy: in fine, pleaſant, grave, lively, ſerious, and inſtructive, by turns.

Converſation, as being the grand theatre, where we exhibit our reaſon, wit, learning, ſentiment, emotions, and paſſions, in an endleſs variety of ſhifting forms and attitudes, is the moſt rational and ſocial of all entertainments, but the moſt difficult to be managed with proper delicacy and judgement.

Diſcretion is of all qualities the moſt neceſſary to make converſation tolerable; wit may divert, or learning may inſtruct, but both become tireſome or impertinent, unleſs they are under the controul of diſcretion.

It is to diſcretion we owe all that deference and regard which we ſhow to one another. As this quality is the reſult of humanity, as well as good ſenſe, it forms a candid, generous, and conſiderate mind; a diſpoſition to overlook the faults of others as much as poſſible; to reſpect their good qualities; and, at all times, whatever their ſituation or talents may be, to avoid the ſmalleſt approach to inſult them, or, in any degree, to make them feel our ſuperiority.

Join to this diſcretion and politeneſs, an even compoſure of temper; a moderation of appetite and paſſion; a modeſty of manner, ſet off by a degree of dignity; a gentility of air, looks, and motions; a certain elegance of expreſſion; and, laſtly, a ſpirit, an integrity, and honour in action: then is the character formed upon the whole, to command our love and eſteem in the higheſt degree.

R. ALVES.

MONUMENT erected, in Weſtminſter Abbey, to the memory of the late Earl of CHATHAM, *April 6.*

THIS monument was, by a vote of parliament, erected to the late Earl of Chatham. There are ſix figures in the monument, and yet the idea on which it is deſigned is the ſimpleſt poſſible. Lord Chatham, with Prudence and Fortitude on a ſarcophagus, occupy the upper part. The lower group conſiſts of Britannia ſeated on a rock, with the Ocean and the Earth at her feet; by which is exhibited the effect of his wiſdom and fortitude in the greatneſs and glory of the nation. The ſtatue of the Earl is in his parliamentary robes. He is in the action of ſpeaking, the right hand thrown forward and elevated and the whole attitude ſtrongly expreſſive of that ſpecies of oratory for which his Lordſhip was ſo juſtly celebrated. Prudence has her uſual ſymbols, a ſerpent twiſting round a mirror; Fortitude is characteriſed by the ſhaft of a column, and is cloathed in a lion's ſkin; the energy of this figure ſtrongly contraſts with the repoſe and contemplative character of the figure of Prudence. Britannia, as Miſtreſs of the ſea, holds in her right hand the trident of Neptune; Ocean is entirely naked, except that his ſymbol, the dolphin, is ſo managed, that decency is perfectly ſecured, without the leaſt public detriment to the ſtatue; his action is agitated, and his countenance ſevere, which is oppoſed by the utmoſt eaſe in the figure of the Earth, who is leaning on a terreſtrial globe; her head is crowned with fruit, which alſo lies in ſome profuſion on the plynth of the ſtatue. The inſcription is as follows.

Erected by the King and Parliament,
As a Teſtimony to
The Virtues and Ability of
William Pitt, Earl of Chatham:
During whoſe Adminiſtration,
Divine Providence exalted Great Britain
To an height of proſperity and glory
Unknown to any former Age.

This monument is the work of Mr Bacon, the ſame artiſt who executed that erected to his Lordſhip in Guildhall. [vol. 44. p. 563.]

NEW

NEW BOOKS.

A Voyage to the Pacific Ocean: Undertaken by the command of his Majesty, for making Discoveries in the Northern Hemisphere; to determine the position and extent of the west side of North America; its distance from Asia; and the practicability of a Northern Passage to Europe. Performed under the direction of Capt[s] Cook, Clerke, and Gore, in his Majesty's ships the Resolution and Discovery, in the Years 1776, 1777, 1778, 1779, and 1780. In Three Volumes. Vol. 1. and 2. written by Capt. James Cook, F. R. S. Vol. 3. by Capt. James King, LL. D. and F. R. S. Illustrated with Maps and Charts, from the original Drawings made by Lieut. Henry Roberts, under the direction of Capt. Cook; and with a great variety of portraits of persons, views of places, and historical representations of remarkable incidents, drawn by Mr Webber during the voyage, and engraved by the most eminent Artists. Published by order of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty. 4to. 4 l. 14 s. 6 d. boards. *Nicol.*

TO this most valuable and splendid publication is prefixed a very elegant and masterly Introduction by the editor, who, although his name does not appear, is well known to be the very acute and ingenious detector of the frauds published by Lauder and Archibald Bower; also of a learned work intitled, *The Criterion.* In this Introduction, the advantages which have accrued from these voyages are pointed out; as they respect improvements in geography; as they do, or may hereafter, respect commerce, astronomy, and navigation, botany, and natural philosophy in general.

In treating of the improvements, made by their means, in geography, he is naturally led to a discussion of what we knew before in that branch of knowledge; and also to state the opinions which were entertained concerning what we had farther to expect.

Under the former of these heads, our editor naturally premises something concerning the discoveries of Columbus, Vasco de Gama, Magalhaens, Mendana, and Quiros; as well as the more early Dutch discoverers, Le Maire, and Schouten, in 1616; Tasman, in 1642; and Roggewein, who made the circuit of the globe, in search of discoveries, so late as 1722. But all these, he shews, except Tasman, deviated little from one common track, and therefore discovered, chiefly, the same islands; but which, nevertheless, appeared to them to be different ones, on account of the different errors which had crept into the respective reckonings of longitude; and they accordingly called them by different names, to the no small confusion of the geography of this part of the globe. He next proceeds to deliver a succinct detail of the routes followed, and the discoveries which had been made in the five former voyages, undertaken by command of his present Majesty; in which he points out how great a share of the discoveries that have been made belong to the immortal conductor of that which is recorded in the volumes before us.

Under the latter, the notions of a southern continent, and of a passage from the Atlantic into the Pacific Ocean, either in a north eastern or a north-western direction, stand foremost on the canvas; and it has fallen to the lot of our celebrated navigator, to shew that neither of them have existence, at least in latitudes where navigation is possible. From what is here said on the subject of a southern continent, we learn, that M. le Monier has not yet given up the existence of the land, called, by Bouvet, the Cape of the Circumcision; but has lately printed two additional memoirs on the same subject; the arguments contained in which, as well as those advanced in his former paper, are here confuted, and Capt. Cook's conduct, in his search of that land, is justified in the most complete and ample manner.

In speaking on the latter of these two heads of speculation, many very interesting circumstances are introduced relating to the countries and coasts adjoining to Hudson's Bay, westward, furnished by the committee of the Hudson's-Bay Company; and which throw great light on the customs and manners of the people inhabiting that most dreary and inhospitable clime, as well as on the geography of that side of North America, and of which very little was before, with certainty, known to the public.

Formerly great complaints were made against this company, on account of their neglecting to prosecute voyages of discovery, for the purposes of which they at first received their charter, as well as for

for diſcouraging all attempts of that nature which were made by others. But it muſt be acknowledged, that the preſent Governor and Committee have made ample amends for the narrow prejudices of their predeceſſors; as they have not only done every thing in their power towards obtaining a perfect knowledge of thoſe parts themſelves, but have, on the preſent occaſion, moſt liberally and readily contributed every thing that could be required of them towards making that knowledge public and uſeful, by communicating ſuch obſervations, maps, charts, and journals, as were in their poſſeſſion. We look upon theſe communications to be ſo very intereſting, not only from their novelty, and the entertainment which they will afford our readers, but alſo on account of their importance and authenticity, as geographical documents, that we ſhall make no apology for inſerting the following abſtract of them.

The great expectations which had been raiſed by Mr Dobbs and Mr Ellis, of finding a paſſage through Cheſterfield's Inlet, from Hudſon's Bay into the Pacific Ocean, induced the Governor and Committee of the Hudſon's Bay Company, in 1761, to direct Mr Chriſtopher, then maſter of a ſloop in their ſervice, at Fort Churchill, but now ſenior commander of the ſhips employed by them, to examine that inlet. In conſequence of theſe orders, Capt. Chriſtopher ſailed from Churchill River in the ſummer of 1761, and proceeded up it until he found he was in a river, by the water growing brackiſh: he then returned.

To leave, however, no room for a variety of opinions on this ſubject, he was ordered to repeat the voyage in the following ſummer; and Mr Norton, ſince Governor at Churchill, was appointed to attend him in a cutter. The journals of Capt. Chriſtopher and Mr Norton, together with Capt. Chriſtopher's chart of the inlet, were readily communicated by the Governor and Committee, with leave to extract from them ſuch parts as might be thought uſeful and intereſting to the public. From theſe authentic documents it appears, that the examination of Cheſterfield's Inlet was now fully completed; and found to end in a freſh-water lake, at the diſtance of about 170 miles from the ſea; and that this lake was about twenty-one leagues in length, and from five to ten broad; completely cloſed on every ſide, except to the weſt, where there was a ſmall rivulet. This ſmall ſtream was likewiſe examined by Mr Norton and the crew of the cutter; who landed, and marched up the country, until they found it terminate in three falls, one above another, over which there was not water for a ſmall boat. The ſtream was continued about five or ſix miles above theſe falls, but with many intervening ridges, moſtly dry from ſide to ſide. Thus ends Cheſterfield's Inlet, and with it Mr Dobb's and Mr Ellis's laſt expectations of a paſſage from Hudſon's Bay into the Pacific Ocean.

Within theſe late years, all the coaſts north of Churchill, to this inlet, have alſo been examined; and it has been found, that in all this extent of coaſt there is no inlet of any conſequence. Piſtol Bay, which is ſituated in theſe parts, and which the laſt writer in this country, on the probability of a N. W. paſſage from Hudſon's Bay, mentions, as the only remaining place where ſuch a paſſage could exiſt, has been ſailed round in an open boat, by Capt. Chriſtopher, and found not to run above three or four miles inland.

But beſides theſe voyages, which ſatisfy us that we muſt not look for a paſſage on this ſide of the latitude 67 degrees north, we are indebted to the Hudſon's-Bay Company for a journey by land; which throws much additional light on this matter, by affording, what may be called demonſtration, how much farther north, at leaſt in ſome parts of their voyage, ſhips muſt go, before they can paſs from one ſide of America to the other. The northern Indians, who come down to the Company's factories to trade, had brought to the knowledge of our people a river, which, on account of much copper being found near it, had obtained the name of the Copper-mine river. We read much about this river in the publications of Mr Dobbs; and he conſiders the Indians account of it as extremely favourable to his ſyſtem. The Company, being deſirous of examining into this matter with preciſion, directed Mr Hearne, a young gentleman in their ſervice, and who, having been brought up for the navy, and ſerved in it the war before laſt, was extremely well qualified for the purpoſe, to proceed over land, under the convoy of thoſe Indians, for that river; which he had orders to ſurvey, if poſſible, quite down to its exit into

into the ſea; to make obſervations for fixing the latitudes and longitudes; and to bring home maps and drawings, both of it and the countries through which he ſhould paſs.

Accordingly Mr Hearne ſet out from Prince of Wales's Fort, on Churchill River, latitude 58° 47½′ north, and longitude 94° 7½′ weſt from Greenwich, on Dec. 7. 1770; and all his proceedings are regularly recorded in a well-written journal; the publication of which would be a very acceptable preſent to the world, if he could be prevailed on to give it; as it draws a plain, artleſs picture of the ſavage modes of life, the ſcanty means of ſubſiſtence, and indeed the ſingular wretchedneſs, in every reſpect, of the various tribes, who, without fixed habitations, paſs their miſerable lives in roving over the dreary deſerts and frozen lakes of the immenſe tract of continent through which Mr Hearne paſſed; and which he may be ſaid to have added to the geography of the globe *. In the month of June 1771, being then at a place called by the natives *Conge-catha-wha-chaga*, he found his latitude, by two

* As a proof of the inconceivable wretchedneſs and miſery to which theſe people are ſubject, we ſhall give the two following extracts from Mr Hearne's journal: one of them is inſerted in the work before us, and the other fell accidentally into our hands ſeveral years ago.

"We arrived at the Copper-mine river on the 13th of July, and, as I found afterwards, about forty miles from its exit into the ſea. On our arrival at the river, the Indians diſpatched three men before, as ſpies, to ſee if any Eſquimaux were about the river: and on the 15th of the ſame month, as I was continuing my ſurvey toward the mouth of the river, I met the three ſpies, who informed us there were five tents of Eſquimaux on the weſt ſide of the river; and by their account of the diſtance, I judged they were about twelve miles off. On receiving this news, no more attention was paid to my ſurvey; but their whole thoughts were engaged on planning the beſt method of ſtealing on them the enſuing night, and killing them while aſleep. The better to complete their deſign, it was neceſſary to croſs the river; and by the account of the ſpies, no place was ſo proper for that purpoſe as where we were; it being fine and ſmooth, and at ſome diſtance from any cataract. Accordingly, after they had put their guns, targets, ſpears, &c. in order, we were ferried over the river; the doing of which (as we had only three canoes) took ſome conſiderable time. It muſt be obſerved, that before we ſet out on the weſt ſide, all the men painted their targets, ſome with the image of the ſun, others with the moon, others with different kinds of birds and beaſts of prey, and ſome had the images of fairies and other imaginary beings on them, which, according to their ſilly imaginations, are the inhabitants of the different elements, as the earth, ſea, air, &c. By a ſtrict inquiry into the reaſon of this ſuperſtition, I found that each man had the image of that being painted on his target, which he relied moſt on for ſucceſs in the intended battle with the Eſquimaux: and ſome were contented with a ſingle repreſentation; whilſt others, doubtful, I ſuppoſe, of the power of any ſingle being, would have their target covered to the very margin with hieroglyphics, quite unintelligible. This piece of ſuperſtition being completed, we began to advance towards the tents of the Eſquimaux, always walking in low grounds, and being very careful how we croſſed any hills, for fear of being ſeen by the inhabitants. The number of my gang being ſo far ſuperior to the five tents of the Eſquimaux, and the warlike manner in which they were equipped, in proportion to what might be expected of the poor Eſquimaux, rendered a total maſſacre inevitable, unleſs kind Providence ſhould work a miracle for their preſervation. The land was ſo ſituated that we walked under cover of the hills till we came within 200 yards of their tents, where the Indians that were with me lay ſome time in ambuſh, watching the motions of the Eſquimaux (for we were in full ſight of their tents). The Indians adviſed me to ſtay here till the fight was over, with which I would by no means comply: for I thought, when the Eſquimaux were ſurpriſed, they would fly every way for refuge; and if they found me alone, not knowing me from an enemy, they would lay violent hands on me, when there were none to aſſiſt. I therefore determined to accompany them; aſſuring them at the ſame time, that I would have no hand in the murder, unleſs I found it neceſſary for my own ſafety. They ſeemed highly pleaſed at my propoſal, and directly fixed a ſpear and bayonet for me; but I had no target. By the time this was all ſettled it was near one o'clock in the morning, when finding all the Eſquimaux aſleep in their tents, they ran on them, without being diſcovered, until they came cloſe to their very doors. They then began the cruel maſſacre, while I ſtood neuter in the rear, and in a few ſeconds a ſcene truly ſhocking preſented itſelf to my view. For as the poor unhappy victims were ſurpriſed in the midſt of their ſleep, they had neither power nor time to make any reſiſtance; but men, women, and children

two obſervations, to be 68° 46′ N. and his longitude, by account, 24° 2′ W. of Churchill River. They left this place on the 2d, and, travelling ſtill to the weſtward of north, on the 13th they reached the

children ran out of their tents, quite naked. But where, alas! could they fly for ſhelter? They every ſoul fell a ſacrifice to Indian barbarity: in all, near thirty! The ſhrieks and groans of the poor expiring ſouls were truly horrible! and this was much increaſed by the ſight of one poor girl (about eighteen years old) whom they killed ſo near to me, that when the firſt ſpear was ſtruck into her, ſhe fell down and twiſted about my feet and legs, and it was with much difficulty I diſengaged myſelf from her dying graſps. As the Indians purſued her, I ſolicited for her life; but ſo far was it from being granted, that I was not fully aſſured of my own being in entire ſafety for offering to ſpeak in her behalf! When I begged her life, the two fellows who followed her made no reply till they had both their ſpears through her, fixed into the ground: they then both looked me ſternly in the face, and began to upbraid me, by aſking if I wanted an Eſquimaux wife; at the ſame time paying no regard to the ſhrieks of the poor girl, who was twining round the ſpears like an eel. Indeed I was obliged, at laſt, to deſire that they would be more expeditious in diſpatching her out of her miſery, leſt, otherwiſe, I ſhould be obliged, out of pity, to aſſiſt in performing that friendly office. The bruiſh manner in which they uſed the bodies, which they had deprived of life, is too ſhocking, and would be indecent to deſcribe; and the terror of mind I was in from ſuch a ſituation, is ſo much eaſier to be conceived than deſcribed, that I ſhall not attempt it. When they had completed this moſt inhuman murder, we obſerved ſeven more tents on the oppoſite ſide of the river. It muſt here be obſerved, that when the ſpies were on the lookout, they could not ſee the ſeven tents juſt under them, on account of the bank hanging too much over; and only ſaw the five tents which were on the other ſide of the river, which in that part was not above eighty yards acroſs. The Indians of theſe other tents were ſoon in great confuſion, but did not offer to make their eſcape. The Indians fired many ſhot at them croſs the river; but the poor Eſquimaux were ſo unacquainted with the nature of guns, that when the bullets ſtruck the rocks, they ran in great bodies to ſee what were ſent them; and ſeemed curious in examining the pieces of lead which they found flatted on the rocks; till at laſt, one man was ſhot through the leg; after which they embarked in their canoes, with their wives and children, and paddled to a ſhoal in the river. When my Indians had made all their obſervations on the bodies, as above mentioned, and plundered their tents of all the copper work (which they and the Copper Indians uſed inſtead of iron), they aſſembled at the top of an high hill, ſtanding in a circle, with their ſpears erect in the air, and gave ſhouts of victory; calling, *Tima! Tima!* by way of deriſion, to the ſurviving Eſquimaux, who were ſtanding on the ſhoal. We then went up the river, about half a mile, to the place where our canoes and baggage were, with an intent to croſs over, and plunder the other ſeven tents. It taking up a conſiderable time to get all acroſs the river, as we had only three canoes, and being entirely under cover of the rocks, the poor Eſquimaux, whom we left on the ſhoal, thought we were gone about our own buſineſs, and had returned to their own tents again. And the land was ſo ſituated on the eaſt ſide, that the Indians went under cover of the hills, until they were within 100 yards of their tents; where they ſaw the Eſquimaux buſy in tying up their bundles. They ran on them again with great fury; but having their canoes ready, they all embarked, and reached the ſhoals before mentioned, except one poor old man; who being too attentive in tying up his things, had not time to reach his canoe, and ſo fell a ſacrifice to Indian fury. After the Indians had plundered theſe tents of what they thought worth their notice, they threw their tent poles into the river, broke their ſtone kettles, and did all they poſſibly could to diſtreſs the poor ſurvivors. We found an aged woman at a ſmall diſtance up the river, ſnaring of ſalmon, whom they butchered in the ſame manner; every man having a thruſt at her with his ſpear."

The other extract is as follows:

"This day, Jan. 11 1772, as the Indians were hunting, ſome of them ſaw a ſtrange ſnow-ſhoe track, which they followed, and at a conſiderable diſtance came to a little hut, where they found a young woman ſitting alone. They brought her to the tents; and, on examining her, found that ſhe was one of the weſtern Dog-ribbed Indians, and had been taken priſoner by the Arathapeſcow Indians, in the ſummer of 1770; and when the Indians who took her priſoner, were near this place in the ſummer of 1771, ſhe eloped from them, with an intent to return to her own country; but it being ſo far off, and when ſhe was taken priſoner having come all the way in canoes, with the winding of rivers and lakes, ſhe had forgot the way: and had been in this little hut ever ſince the firſt ſetting in of the fall. By her account of

the Copper-mine River; and Mr Hearne was greatly ſurpriſed to find it differ ſo eſſentially from the deſcriptions which had been given of it, by the natives, at the fort. For inſtead of being navigable by ſhips, as they reported, it was ſcarcely, in that part, navigable by an Indian canoe; having three falls in ſight at one time, and being choked up with ſhoals and ſtony ridges, which reached almoſt quite acroſs it.

Here Mr Hearne began his ſurvey of the river, and continued it quite to its mouth, near which it was that the Indians committed the horrible maſſacre recorded in the foregoing note. He found the river, all the way, even to its exit into the ſea, incumbered with ſhoals and falls, and emptying itſelf into it over a dry flat of the ſhore, the tide being then out, which ſeemed, by the edges of the ice, to riſe about twelve or fourteen feet. This riſe, on account of the falls, will carry it but a very ſmall way within the river's mouth; ſo that the water in it had not the leaſt brackiſh taſte. Mr Hearne is, nevertheleſs, ſure of the place it emptied itſelf into being the ſea, or a branch of it, by the quantity of whalebone and ſeal-ſkins which the Eſquimaux had at their tents; and alſo by the number of ſeals which he ſaw upon the ice. The ſea, at the river's mouth, was full of iſlands and ſhoals, as far as he could ſee, by the aſſiſtance of a pocket teleſcope; and the ice was not yet (July 17.) broken up, but thawed away only for about three quarters of a mile from the ſhore, and for a little way round the iſlands and ſhoals which lay off the river's mouth. But he had the moſt extenſive view of the ſea when he was about eight miles up the river; from which ſtation the extreme parts of it bore N. W. by W. and N. E.

By the time Mr Hearne had finiſhed his ſurvey of the river, which was about one o'clock in the morning on the 18th, there came on a very thick fog and drizzling rain; and as he had found the river and ſea in every reſpect unlikely to be of any utility, he thought it unneceſſary to wait for fair weather, to determine the latitude more exactly by obſervation; but, by the extraordinary care he took in obſerving the courſes and diſtances, walked from *Conge-catha-whachaga*, where he had two very good obſervations, he thinks the latitude may be depended on within 20′ at the utmoſt. It appears from the map which Mr Hearne conſtructed of this ſingular journey; and which, by permiſſion of the Hudſon's-Bay Company, is copied into the general chart

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of the moons paſt ſince her elopement, it appears to have been the middle of laſt July when ſhe left the Arathapeſcow Indians, and had not ſeen a human face ſince. She had ſupported herſelf by ſnaring of rabbits, partridges, and ſquirrels; and was now in good health, and fleſh: and, I think, as fine a woman of a real Indian, as I have ſeen in any part of North America. She had nothing to make ſnares of, but the ſinews of rabbits legs and feet, which ſhe twiſted together for that purpoſe; and of the rabbits ſkins had made a neat and warm winter's cloathing. The ſtock of materials ſhe took with her, when ſhe eloped, conſiſted of about five inches of an iron hoop for a knife; a ſtone ſteel, and other hard ſtones, as flints, together with other fire tackle, as tinder, &c.; about an inch and an half of the ſhank of the ſhoeing of an arrow of iron, of which ſhe made an awl. She had not been long at the tents before half a ſcore men wreſtled to ſee who ſhould have her for a wife. She ſays, that, when the Arathapeſcow Indians took her priſoner, they ſtole upon the tents in the night, when all the inhabitants were aſleep, and murdered every ſoul, except herſelf and three other young women. Her father, mother, and huſband were in the ſame tent with her, and they were all killed Her child of about five months old, ſhe took with her, wrapt in a bundle of her own cloathing, undiſcovered, in the night. But when ſhe arrived at the place where the Arathapeſcows had left their wives, which was not far off, it being then day-break, theſe Indian women immediately began to examine her bundle; and having there found the child, took it from her, and killed it immediately. The relation of this ſhocking ſcene only ſerved the ſavages of my gang for laughter. Her country is ſo far to the weſtward, that ſhe ſays, ſhe never ſaw any iron or other kind of metal, till taken priſoner; thoſe of her tribe making their hatchets and chiſels of deers horn, and knives of ſtone and bone; their arrows are ſhod with a kind of ſlate, bone, and deers horns; and their inſtruments to make their wood work are nothing but beavers teeth. They have frequently heard of the uſeful materials the nations to the Eaſt of them are ſupplied with from the Engliſh; but, inſtead of drawing nearer, to be in the way of trading for iron work, &c. are obliged to retreat farther back, to avoid the Arathapeſcow Indians, as they make ſurpriſing ſlaughter among them every year, both winter and ſummer."

chart of the world publiſhed with this voyage, that the mouth of the Copper-mine River lies in latitude 72° N and longitude 25° W. from Churchill River; that is, about 119° W. of Greenwich.

Mr Hearne's journey back from the Copper-mine River to Churchill laſted till June 30. 1772; ſo that he was abſent almoſt a year and ſeven months. The unparallelled hardſhips he ſuffered, and the eſſential ſervice he performed, have met with a ſuitable reward from his maſters. He has been ſeveral years Governor of Prince of Wales's Fort, on Churchill River, where he was taken priſoner by the French in 1782; and, laſt ſummer, he returned to his ſtation.

The conſequences reſulting from this extenſive diſcovery are obvious. We now ſee that the continent of North America ſtretches from Hudſon's Bay ſo far to the north weſt, that Mr Hearne travelled near 1300 miles before he arrived at the ſea; and that the whole of his track to the northward of 61° of north latitude, lay near 600 miles due weſt of the weſtern coaſt of Hudſon's Bay; at the ſame time that his Indian guides were well aware of a vaſt tract of land, ſtretching farther, in the ſame direction. How futile now appear the arguments of thoſe, who, about forty years ago, ſtickled ſo much for a north-weſt paſſage through Hudſon's Bay? And who, we now ſee, muſt have employed both the frauds of forgery and perjury in maintaining their arguments, and blaſting the character of a worthy and ingenious man *.

* Captain Chriſtopher Middleton, after having ſuffered himſelf (we acknowledge weakly) to be ſeduced from the ſervice of the Hudſon's Bay Company, to go in ſearch of this paſſage, was driven from his employment in the navy by the blackeſt and falſeſt calumnies, and obliged to ſpend what little property remained to him in the defence of his character and reputation, becauſe he did not find what we now know, with certainty, did not exiſt. He died, ſome years ago, near Guiſborough, in Yorkſhire, in the utmoſt penury and diſtreſs: having, long before, been drove to the neceſſity of parting with Sir Godfrey Copley's gold medal, which had been preſented to him by the Royal Society in 1742, for his account of Hudſon's Bay. His children, four daughters, brought up in eaſe and elegance by the produce of his labours in the early part of his life, all died, if we remember right, before him; ſome of them, at leaſt, in a more wretched ſituation than himſelf.

This information, though not laid before the public till now, was well known to the Noble Lord who preſided at the board of admiralty when this voyage was undertaken, and of courſe regulated the inſtructions which were given to Capt. Cook. Theſe inſtructions are inſerted at length in this Introduction; as well as thoſe given to the late Captain Young, who was ordered to uſe his utmoſt endeavours to meet Capt. Cook, by going through Baffin's Bay. But his attempts to get into that bay were wholly ineffectual.

The learned editor next proceeds to give ſummary accounts of the attempts made by the Spaniards to examine the weſtern coaſt of America, north of California; thoſe made alſo by the Ruſſians for the ſame purpoſe, as well as for diſcovering the eaſtern coaſt of Aſia, and the iſlands which lie between them. And he obſerves, that the advantages obtained by theſe voyages would not be unimportant, if they were confined to the advances that had been made in geography, and no other purpoſes anſwered thereby but that of putting an end to the fanciful theories of ſpeculative men; which, as he juſtly remarks, have but too often, already, given birth to impracticable undertakings; and might hereafter have been the cauſe of many more. But theſe voyages will not only benefit the world by diſcouraging unprofitable reſearches, but alſo contribute greatly to leſſen the dangers and diſtreſſes which were formerly experienced in uſeful ones, by pointing out ſuch a number of new bays, harbours, and anchoring-places, where ſhips may be ſheltered, and their crews find comfortable refreſhments; by detecting the miſtakes of leſs-experienced navigators; by rectifying the ſituation of a number of important places; determining the variations of the compaſs; detecting currents; and, by accumulating nautical obſervations for directing a ſhip's courſe along rocky and dangerous ſhores, through narrow ſtraits, amidſt perplexing currents, and dangerous ſhoals. In ſhort, the labour of theſe intrepid navigators muſt endear their names to the mariners of every country whom trade or war may carry into their track: and the hearts of the enemies of Great Britain, when fighting againſt her, muſt, no doubt, often hereafter glow with gratitude for thoſe, her invaluable ſons, from owing their lives and ſafeties to theſe important diſcoveries.

But

But the benefits arising from these voyages, our editor observes, are not confined to natural knowledge alone; for after the great discovery of the vicinity of Asia and America, or at least the full confirmation of it, we may hope, that we shall not be any more ridiculed for believing, that the former could easily furnish its inhabitants to the latter: and thus, to all the various good purposes already enumerated, we may add this last, though not the least important, that they have done service to religion, by depriving infidelity of a favourite objection to the credibility of the Mosaic account of *the peopling of the earth*.

"Hitherto," adds he, "we have considered our voyages as having benefited the *discoverers*. But it may be asked, have they conveyed, or are they likely to convey, any benefit to the *discovered*? It would afford exquisite satisfaction to every benevolent mind, to be instructed in facts, which might enable us, without hesitation, to answer this question in the affirmative. And yet, perhaps, we may indulge the pleasing hope, that, even in this respect, our ships have not sailed in vain. Other discoveries of new countries have, in effect, been wars, or rather massacres; nations have been no sooner found out, than they have been extirpated; and the horrid cruelties of the conquerors of Mexico and Peru can never be remembered, without blushing for religion and human nature. But when the recesses of the globe are investigated, not to enlarge private dominion, but to promote general knowledge; when we visit new tribes of our fellow-creatures as friends; and wish only to learn that they exist, in order to bring them within the pale of the offices of humanity, and to relieve the wants of their imperfect state of society, by communicating to them our superior attainments; voyages of discovery planned with such benevolent views by GEORGE III. and executed by COOK, have not, we trust, totally failed in this respect. Our repeated visits, and long continued intercourse with the natives of the Friendly, Society, and Sandwich Islands, cannot but have darted some rays of light on the infant minds of those poor people. The uncommon objects they have thus had opportunities of observing and admiring, will naturally tend to enlarge their stock of ideas, and to furnish new materials for the exercise of their reason. Comparing themselves with their visitors, they cannot but be struck with the deepest conviction of their own inferiority, and be impelled, by the strongest motives, to strive to emerge from it, and to rise nearer to a level with those children of the Sun, who deigned to look upon them, and left behind so many specimens of their generous and humane attention. The very introduction of our useful animals and vegetables, by adding fresh means of subsistence, will have added to their comforts of life, and immediate enjoyments; and if this be the only benefit they are ever to receive, who will pronounce that much has not been gained? But may we not carry our wishes and our hopes still farther? Great Britain itself, when first visited by the Phœnicians, was inhabited by painted savages, not, perhaps, blessed with higher attainments than are possessed by the present natives of New Zealand; certainly less civilized than those of Tongataboo or Otaheite. Our having opened an intercourse with them is the first step toward improvement. Who knows, but that our late voyages may be the means appointed by Providence, of spreading, in due time, the blessings of civilisation amongst the numerous tribes of the South Pacific Ocean; of abolishing their horrid repasts, and their horrid rites; and of laying the foundation for future and more effectual plans, to prepare them for holding an honourable station amongst the nations of the earth? This, at least, is certain, that our having, as it were, brought them into existence by our extensive researches, will suggest to us fresh motives of devout gratitude to the Supreme Being, for having blessed us with advantages hitherto with-held from so great a proportion of the human race; and will operate powerfully to incite us to persevere in every feasible attempt to be his instruments in rescuing millions of fellow-creatures from their present state of humiliation."

Having thus pointed out the numerous and important advantages which have arisen, and may arise from these voyages, both to the *discoverers* and *discovered*; our learned editor proceeds to inquire into the origin of the inhabitants who people this myriad of islands that are scattered over the great Pacific Ocean, and proves, by incontrovertible arguments, founded on the affinity of their language, manners, and customs, that they

they have all originally ſprung from one common ſtock, and that *that ſtock* is the Aſiatic nation called *Malayans*. He alſo traces another of the large families of the earth, but whoſe lot has fallen in far leſs hoſpitable climes: we mean the Eſquimaux; known hitherto only on the coaſts of Greenland, Labradore, and Hudſon's Bay; and who differ in ſeveral characteriſtic marks from the inland inhabitants of North America. Mr Hearne, as our readers have already ſeen, traced this unhappy tribe farther back toward that part of the globe from which, no doubt, they had originally migrated; but it was reſerved for Capt. Cook to ſhew that it is the ſame race which peoples the bays and iſlands on the weſt coaſt of North America, and that they are extended over a ſpace of at leaſt 1500 leagues from eaſt to weſt, and from the latitude of 60° to the latitude of 72° north.

Having diſcuſſed the ſeveral points of natural knowledge which appeared to the editor proper to be admitted into this Introduction, he proceeds to make his readers acquainted with the manner in which, and the perſons by whom, the narrative of the voyage was compiled; and, as this is matter of ſome importance to the public, we think we cannot give it better than in his own words.

"Capt. Cook, knowing, before he ſailed upon this laſt expedition, that it was expected from him to relate, as well as to execute, its operations, had taken care to prepare ſuch a journal as might be made uſe of for publication. This journal, which exiſts in his own handwriting, has been faithfully adhered to. It is not a bare extract from his logbooks, but contains many remarks, which, it appears, had not been inſerted by him in the nautical regiſter; and it is alſo enriched with conſiderable communications from Mr Anderſon, ſurgeon of the Reſolution. The confeſſed abilities, and great aſſiduity, of Mr Anderſon, in obſerving every thing that related either to natural hiſtory, or to manners and language; and the deſire which, it is well known, Capt. Cook, on all occaſions, ſhewed to have the aſſiſtance of that gentleman, ſtamped a great value on his collections. That nothing, therefore, might be wanting to convey to the public the beſt poſſible account of the tranſactions of the voyage, his journal, by the order of Lord Sandwich, was alſo put into the hands of the editor, who was authoriſed and directed to avail himſelf of the information it might be found to contain, about matters imperfectly touched, or altogether omitted, in Capt. Cook's manuſcript. This taſk has been executed in ſuch a manner, that the reader will ſcarcely ever be at a loſs to diſtinguiſh in what inſtances recourſe has been had to Mr Anderſon. To preclude, if poſſible, any miſtake, the copy of the firſt and ſecond volumes, before it went to the printer, was ſubmitted to Capt. King; and after it had been read over, and corrected by one ſo well qualified to point out any inaccuracies, the Earl of Sandwich had the goodneſs to give it a peruſal. As to the third volume, nothing more need be ſaid, than that it was completely prepared for the preſs by Capt. King himſelf. All that the editor of the work has to anſwer for, are the Notes occaſionally introduced in the courſe of the two volumes contributed by Capt. Cook, and this Introduction, which was intended as a kind of epilogue to our voyages of diſcovery. He muſt be permitted, however, to ſay, that he conſiders himſelf as intitled to no inconſiderable ſhare of candid indulgence from the public; having engaged in a very tedious and troubleſome undertaking upon the moſt diſintereſted motives; his only reward being the ſatisfaction he feels, in having been able to do an eſſential ſervice to the family of our great navigator, who had honoured him, in the journal of the voyage, with the appellation of friend."

The following apology is given for the length of time which has elapſed between the concluſion of the voyage, and the publication.

"They who have repeatedly aſked, why this publication has been ſo long delayed, need only look at the volumes, and their attendant illuſtrations and ornaments *, to be ſatisfied that it might,

* Theſe conſiſt of eighty-ſix moſt elegant engravings; the nature, ſize, and ſubjects of which are as follows:

2 Whole ſheets 13 Half ſheets 10 Quarter ſheets	Of Maps, Charts, Plans, and Views of Land.
32 Folio 29 Quarto	Views of the countries, inhabitants, their ceremonies, amuſements, manners, cuſtoms, &c. engraved from drawings made on the ſpot by Mr Webber.

with

with at leaſt equal reaſon, be wondered at, that it has not been delayed longer. The journal of Capt. Cook, from the firſt moment that it came into the hands of the editor, had been ready for the preſs; and Capt. King had left with him his part of the narrative, ſo long ago as his departure for the Weſt Indies, when he commanded the Reſiſtance man of war. But much, beſides, remained to be done. The charts, particularly the general one, were to be prepared by Mr Roberts *. The very numerous and elegant drawings of Mr Webber were to be reduced by him to the proper ſize; artiſts were next to be found out who would undertake to engrave them; the prior engagements of theſe artiſts were to be fulfilled before they could begin; the labour and ſkill to be exerted in finiſhing many of them rendered this a tedious operation; paper fit for printing them on was to be procured from abroad; and after all theſe various and unavoidable difficulties were ſurmounted, much time was neceſſarily required for executing a numerous impreſſion of the long liſt of plates, with ſo much care as might do juſtice both to Mr Webber, and to his ſeveral engravers. When all theſe circumſtances are taken into conſideration, we truſt we ſhall hear no more of the delay they have occaſioned; and only be grateful to that munificent Patron of ſcience, who not only directed the hiſtory of the voyage to be publiſhed, but to be publiſhed with ſuch a ſplendid train of ornaments, at the public expence, as will ſtill add to the merit of having ordered the voyage itſelf to be undertaken."

* Lieut. Roberts was maſter's mate on board the Reſolution; and had been with Capt. Cook in his former voyage. He conſtructed all the charts from Captain Cook's rough ſketches, under the Captain's directions. The authorities from which the general chart was laid down, are given in a note.

We ſhall occaſionally give extracts from the more intereſting paſſages of this valuable work.—— So great was the demand for this book, that, on the third day after publication, a copy was not to be met with in the hands of the bookſeller; and ſix, ſeven, eight, and even ten guineas, have ſince been offered for a ſet. M.

An Eſſay on the treatment and converſion of African Slaves in the Britiſh Sugar Colonies. By the Rev. James Ramſay, A. M. Vicar of Teſton, Kent. 8vo. 4 s. boards. Philips.

THE treatment of the ſlaves in the Weſt Indies is a ſubject which has been often regretted by men of humanity, but never diſcuſſed with ſuch preciſion, as by the intelligent author of the preſent Eſſay. It appears that a reſidence in thoſe parts, for a conſiderable time, had afforded Mr Ramſay frequent opportunities of beholding the extreme ſeverity exerciſed over the unfortunate negroes. The humanity of this worthy clergyman was too firmly eſtabliſhed to be obliterated by the repetition of barbarous ſpectacles, however palliated by general example, and even ſanctified by the practice of ſome ages. His ardour for aboliſhing the exertion of a power repugnant to natural juſtice, ſeems to have increaſed with the opportunities of obſervation; and we find him perſevering, during a period of twenty years, in collecting and arranging materials for the overthrow of a tyranny, the moſt diſgraceful ever tolerated in any civilized nation.

In the firſt chapter, Mr Ramſay takes a view of the various ranks in ſocial life; and begins with conſidering the relation of maſter and ſlave in ancient times.

"We are taught, by the higheſt authority, ſays he, that Moſes adapted ſeveral of his inſtitutions to the particular diſpoſition of his countrymen. He did not attempt to prohibit ſlavery among them, perhaps, becauſe they were not then more ripe for it, than for the indiſſoluble band of matrimony; but while he allowed them to make ſlaves of the conquered Canaanites and their poſterity, he endeavoured to render their lot eaſy, and the behaviour of maſters humane. Indeed, in the early ages, it is a manner peculiar to him, and the Athenian legiſlators (of whom hereafter), to have paid, in the caſe of ſlaves, a proper attention to the reſerved and unalienable rights of human nature.

He enacts, that there ſhould be one law, one rule of juſtice, for the native and for the ſtranger; which is in direct oppoſition to ſome of our colony laws, where the evidence of even a free African will not be taken againſt a white man. He ſecures good uſage to the ſlave, by commanding,

commanding, that if his maſter, in beating him, ſtrike out but a ſingle tooth, he ſhall have his freedom. He ordains the perſonal ſlavery of every Jew to terminate in the beginning of the ſeventh, or ſabbatical year, whether near at hand, or diſtant, when that commenced. He guards effectually againſt a groveling ſlaviſh ſpirit among his people, by condemning him to perpetual ſlavery, who, enticed by kind treatment from his maſter, ſhould ſhow a diſregard of this noble privilege of the ſabbatical year. He calls repeatedly on his people to remember, that they themſelves had been ſlaves in Egypt; and, therefore, from motives of fellow-feeling, ſhould make the condition of their ſlaves eaſy and agreeable to them. He bids them treat well ſtrangers of one country, becauſe they had been ſtrangers in their land; others, becauſe they were of the ſame lineage with themſelves. He tells them, that the inſtitution of a weekly ſabbath had in contemplation the benevolent purpoſe of giving reſt to the wearied ſlave, and a reſpite from toil, even to the wearied ox."

With regard to the practice of the Athenians, who held the firſt place among the other ancient nations, Mr Ramſay obſerves, that they were comparatively indulgent, eaſy, and kind, to their ſlaves. Among them, if ſlaves were treated with cruelty by their maſters, they might claim protection in the temple of Theſeus; where they remained in ſafety until the ſubject of complaint could be tried at law. If the complaint of the ſlave was found to be juſt, the maſter was obliged to aſſign over his ſervice to ſome other perſon. Slaves could demand an exchange of maſters, if their maſter had made any attempt on their chaſtity. The laws alſo afforded them protection and redreſs againſt every injury that might have been done them by any citizen, not their maſter. Athenian ſlaves were not reſtrained in any of the common amuſements of ſociety. They were allowed to acquire property, on paying their maſters a certain yearly rate; and if able to purchaſe their freedom, they might demand it of their maſter for a determined price.

In the infant ſtate of Rome, ſlaves worked and lived with their maſters without much diſtinction of rank or uſage. But in proportion as luxury increaſed among the Romans, the condition of their ſlaves ſunk gradually to the loweſt degree of wretchedneſs. Miſerable indeed muſt they have been, while the elder Cato ſet his ſlaves adrift to ſtarve in their old age, when they could be no longer ſerviceable; and condemned them to fiſh-ponds for trivial faults. Adrian, as our author obſerves, is the firſt on record who, by an edict, deprived the maſter of the power of life and death in his family.

Mr Ramſay next proceeds to deſcribe the ſtate of ſlavery in Gothic times, when the introduction of feudal tenures gave riſe to a new ſpecies of it in Europe. It appears, he obſerves, that, in general, this ſlavery conſiſted in obliging the conquered nations to cultivate their own lands, and render to the conquerors ſuch a part of the produce as they thought proper to ſpecify. But as the people, thus ſubjected, became the teachers and reformers of their maſters; and as the latter were by degrees converted to religion, ſo this ſtate of ſubordination went on, gradually approaching to equality, and terminating in the reciprocal ſocial dependence between the ſervant and maſter.

"Had Europe, ſays he, as a much diſtinguiſhed quarter of the globe, reaped no other ſocial advantage from the eſtabliſhment of Chriſtianity than the abolition of ſlavery, this benefit alone would have been immenſe; the ſuperiority gained by it over the reſt of the world would have been incredible. And with what ſhame and ſorrow muſt we remark, that ſhe, who has been raiſed ſo high above her fellows, by the influence of this heaven-deſcended liberty, at this day is, and, for more than two centuries paſt, has been, ſtriving with all the venturous energy of a commercial ſpirit, to eſtabliſh ſlavery in the new world; in a region, where the curſe of ſlavery was unknown, till, through an infernal love of gold, ſhe introduced and fixed it? But when the Engliſh, (for though the Portugueſe and Spaniards had tranſported Africans more early to their American ſettlements, yet Hawkins, an Engliſhman, is ſaid firſt to have given occaſion for the preſent inhuman trade), a nation moſt highly favoured of liberty, is viewed as taking the lead in this odious traffic, and as bending down the ſoul in utter darkneſs, the more effectually to enſlave the body; freedom muſt bluſh indignantly, while humanity mourns over the reproachful tale. Would to God we might indulge the hope, that the ſame people who firſt rivetted, might alſo firſt

cut

cut asunder the iron chain which disgraces our nature and nation in the western world; and that a people, who have risqued their own existence, frequently, as a state, to keep one continental tyrant from ridding the world of another, might at last have wisdom to render themselves rich and powerful, by restoring to liberty, and recovering to society and reason, the exiled sons of Africa!"

This author next delineates the state of slavery in the French colonies. He informs us, that in those settlements the public pays an immediate attention to the treatment and instruction of slaves. The intendants are charged with their protection; proper missionaries are appointed for the purpose of training them up to a certain degree of religious knowledge; and ample estates or funds are allotted for the maintenance of those ecclesiastics. On all the fasts and festivals of the Romish church, the slaves are exempted from labour, that they may have leisure to attend mass. Every slave has a claim to a certain allowance of food and cloathing, which is not to be diminished by their masters, under pretence of having given him time to work for himself. The power of the master is confined to the whip and chain; he may not wound or mutilate his slave. If a slave, rendered unserviceable through age, hurts, and disease, be turned adrift by his master, he is to be placed in the public hospital, and maintained at the expence of his master.

We are next presented with the state of slaves in the British colonies, where we are sorry to observe, as a disgrace to our national polity, that their condition is superlatively wretched.

"The English, says Mr Ramsay, have not paid the least attention to enforce by a law, either humanity or justice, as these may respect their slaves. Many are the restrictions, and severe are the punishments, to which our slaves are subjected. But if you except a law that Gov. Leake got enacted in Nevis, to distinguish petty larceny in slaves from felony; and a law in Grenada and Jamaica, that obligeth masters to allot to their slaves a certain portion of land for the growth of provisions; and one in this last island, that grants them Saturday afternoon for the culture of it; I recollect not a single clause in all our colony-acts (and I perused the several codes with the view of remarking such), enacted to secure them the least humane treatment, or to save them from the capricious cruelty of an ignorant, unprincipled master, or a morose unfeeling overseer. Nay, a horse, a cow, or a sheep, is much better protected with us by the law, than a poor slave. For these, if found in a trespass, are not to be injured, but secured for their owners; while a half-starved negro may, for breaking a single cane, which probably he himself has planted, be hacked to pieces with a cutlass; even though, perhaps, he be incapable of resistance, or of running away from the watchman, who finds him in the fact. Nay, we have men among us, who dare boast of their giving orders to their watchmen, not to bring home any slave that they find breaking of canes, but, as they call it, to *hide* them, that is to *kill*, and bury them. And, accordingly, every now and then, some poor wretch is missed, and some lacerated carcase is discovered.

The discipline of a sugar-plantation is as exact as that of a regiment: at four o'clock in the morning the plantation bell rings to call the slaves into the field. Their work is, to manure, dig, and hoe, plough the ground, to plant, weed, and cut the cane, to bring it to the mill, to have the juice expressed, and boiled into sugar. About nine o'clock, they have half an hour for breakfast, which they take in the field. Again they fall to work, and, according to the custom of the plantation, continue until eleven o'clock, or noon; the bell then rings, and the slaves are dispersed in the neighbourhood, to pick up about the fences, in the mountains, and fallow or waste grounds, natural grass and weeds for the horses and cattle. The time allotted for this branch of work, and preparation of dinner, varies from an hour and a half to near three hours. In collecting pile by pile their little bundles of grass, the slaves of low-land plantations, frequently burnt up by the sun, must wander in their neighbours grounds, perhaps more than two miles from home. In their return, often some lazy fellow, of the intermediate plantation, with a view of saving himself the trouble of picking his own grass, seizes on them, and pretends to insist on carrying them to his master, for picking grass, or being found in his grounds; a crime that forfeits the bundle, and subjects the offender to twenty lashes of a long cart-whip, of twisted leathern thongs. The wretch, rather than be carried

carried to judgement in another man's plantation, is fain to eſcape with the loſs of his bundle, and often to put up quietly with a good drubbing from the robber into the bargain. The hour of delivering in his graſs, and renewing his taſk, approaches, while hunger importunately ſolicits him to remember its call; but he muſt renew the irkſome toil, and ſearch ſome green, ſhady, unfrequented ſpot, from which to repair his loſs.

At one, or in ſome plantations at two o'clock, the bell ſummons them to deliver in the tale of their graſs, and aſſemble to their field-work. If the overſeer thinks their bundles too ſmall, or if they come too late with them, they are puniſhed with a number of ſtripes from four to ten. Some maſters, under a fit of carefulneſs for their cattle, have gone as far as fifty ſtripes, which effectually diſable the culprit for weeks. If a ſlave has no graſs to deliver in, he keeps away out of fear, ſkulks about in the mountains, and is abſent from his work often for months; an aggravation of his crime, which, when he is caught, he is made to remember.

About half an hour before ſun-ſet, they may be found ſcattered again over the land, like the Iſraelites in Egypt, to cull, blade by blade, from among the weeds, their ſcanty parcels of graſs. About ſeven o'clock in the evening, or later, according to the ſeaſon of the year, when the overſeer can find leiſure, they are called over by liſt to deliver in their ſecond bundles of graſs; and the ſame puniſhment as at noon is inflicted on the delinquents. They then ſeparate, to pick up in their way to their huts, (if they have not done it, as they generally do, while gathering graſs), a little bruſh-wood, or dry cow-dung, to prepare ſome ſimple meſs for ſupper, and to-morrow's breakfaſt. This employs them till near midnight, and then they go to ſleep, till the bell calls them in the morning."

Mr Ramſay labours hard in one part of his book to prove the capacity of the negroes. This we will readily allow him, ſuppoſing mankind to be nearly the ſame in point of intellect, in an equal degree of cultivation. No body, however, we think, can attempt to diſprove, that becauſe one race of men have blacker ſkins and larger heads than their neighbours, they are to be treated with ferocious inhumanity, with a barbarity more ſavage than that with which the beaſts of the field are treated by the moſt unfeeling and thoughtleſs. Our author accounts philoſophically enough for one part of their underſtanding. He ſays, "that a depth of cunning that enables them to over-reach, conceal, deceive, is the only province of mind left for them, as ſlaves, to enjoy; and this they cultivate, and enjoy the fruits of to a great degree." He adds, notwithſtanding, that individual negroes have ſhewn an elevation of ſentiment that would have done honour to a Spartan:—With the following inſtance of which we ſhall cloſe our account of this work.

"The Spectator, N° 215. has celebrated a rude inſtance in two negroes, in the iſland of St Chriſtopher, which, on inquiry, I find to be true. I will confirm this by the relation of a deed, that happened within theſe thirty years, for which I have no name. As I had my information from a friend of the maſter's, in the maſter's preſence, who acknowledged it to be genuine, the truth of it is indiſputable. The only liberty I have taken with it, has been to give words to the ſentiment that inſpired it.

Quaſhi was brought up in the family with his maſter, as his play-fellow from his childhood. Being a lad of towardly parts, he roſe to be driver, or black overſeer, under his maſter, when the plantation fell to him by ſucceſſion. He retained for his maſter the tenderneſs that he had felt in childhood for his playmate; and the reſpect with which the relation of maſter inſpired him, was ſoftened by the affection which the remembrance of their boyiſh intimacy kept alive in his breaſt. He had no ſeparate intereſt of his own; and in his maſter's abſence redoubled his diligence, that his affairs might receive no injury from it. In ſhort, here was the moſt delicate, yet moſt ſtrong, and ſeemingly indiſſoluble tie, that could bind maſter and ſlave together.

Though the maſter had judgement to know when he was well ſerved, and policy to reward good behaviour, he was inexorable when a fault was committed; and when there was but an apparent cauſe of ſuſpicion, he was too apt to let prejudice uſurp the place of proof. Quaſhi could not exculpate himſelf to his ſatisfaction, for ſomething done contrary to the diſcipline of the plantation, and was threatened with the ignominious puniſhment of the cart-whip; and he knew his

his maſter too well to doubt of the performance of his promiſe.

A negro, who was grown up to manhood, without undergoing a ſolemn cart whipping, as ſome by good chance will, eſpecially if diſtinguiſhed by any accompliſhment among his fellows, takes pride in what he calls the ſmoothneſs of his ſkin, its being unrazed by the whip; and he would be at more pains, and uſe more diligence, to eſcape ſuch cart whipping, than many of our lower ſort would uſe to ſhun the gallows. It is not uncommon for a ſober good negro to ſtab himſelf mortally, becauſe ſome boy-overſeer has flogged him, for what he reckoned a trifle, or for his caprice, or threatened him with a flogging when he thought he did not deſerve it. Quaſhi dreaded this mortal wound to his honour, and ſlipt away unnoticed, with a view to avoid it.

It is uſual for ſlaves who expect to be puniſhed for their own fault, or their maſter's caprice, to go to ſome friend of their maſter's, and beg him to carry them home, and mediate for them. This is found to be ſo uſeful, that humane maſters are glad of the pretence of ſuch mediation, and will ſecretly procure it, to avoid the neceſſity of puniſhing for trifles; it otherwiſe not being prudent to paſs over without correction, a fault once taken notice of; while by this method, an appearance of authority and diſcipline is kept up, without the ſeverity of it. Quaſhi therefore withdrew, reſolved to ſhelter himſelf, and ſave the gloſſy honours of his ſkin, under favour of this cuſtom, till he had an opportunity of applying to an advocate. He lurked among his maſter's negro huts, and his fellow ſlaves had too much honour, and too great a regard for him, to betray to their maſter the place of his retreat. Indeed, it is hardly poſſible in any caſe, to get one ſlave to inform againſt another; ſo much more honour have they than Europeans of low condition.

The following day a feaſt was kept, on account of his maſter's nephew then coming of age; amidſt the good humour of which, Quaſhi hoped to ſucceed in his application; but before he could execute his deſign, perhaps juſt as he was ſetting out to go and ſolicit this mediation, his maſter, while walking about his fields, fell in with him. Quaſhi, on diſcovering him, ran off, and the maſter, who is a robuſt man, purſued him. A ſtone, or a clod, tripped Quaſhi up, juſt as the other reached out his hand to ſeize him. They fell together, and wreſtled for the maſtery; for Quaſhi alſo was a ſtout man, and the elevation of his mind added vigour to his arm. At laſt, after a ſevere ſtruggle, in which each had been ſeveral times uppermoſt, Quaſhi got firmly ſeated on his maſter's breaſt, now panting and out of breath, and with his weight, his thighs, and one hand, ſecured him motionleſs. He then drew out a ſharp knife, and while the other lay in dreadful expectation, helpleſs, and ſhrinking into himſelf, he thus addreſſed him: "Maſter, I was bred up with you from a child; I was your play-mate when a boy; I have loved you as myſelf; your intereſt has been my ſtudy; I am innocent of the cauſe of your ſuſpicion; had I been guilty, my attachment to you might have pleaded for me: Yet you have condemned me to a puniſhment, of which I muſt ever have borne the diſgraceful marks; thus only can I avoid them." With theſe words, he drew the knife with all his ſtrength acroſs his own throat, and fell down dead without a groan, on his maſter, bathing him in his blood."

SIR, *May* 28.

I Send you a circumſtantial account of an animal, which, though its general properties are pretty well known, is, for the moſt part, ſuch a ſtranger to man, that we are but little aware of its peculiarities. We know indeed, that the Hare is good to hunt, and good to eat; but, in all other reſpects, poor Puſs is a neglected ſubject.

In the year 1774, being much indiſpoſed both in mind and body, incapable of diverting myſelf either with company or books, and yet in a condition that made ſome diverſion neceſſary, I was glad of any thing that would engage my attention without fatiguing it. The children of a neighbour of mine had a leveret given them for a plaything; it was at that time about three months old. Underſtanding better how to teaſe the poor creature than to feed it, and ſoon becoming weary of their charge, they readily conſented that their father, who ſaw it pining and growing leaner every day, ſhould offer it to my acceptance. I was willing enough to take the priſoner

ſoner under my protection, perceiving, that, in the management of ſuch an animal, and in the attempt to tame it, I ſhould find juſt that ſort of employment which my caſe required. It was ſoon known among the neighbours that I was pleaſed with the preſent; and the conſequence was, that in a ſhort time I had as many leverets offered to me as would have ſtocked a paddock. I undertook the care of three, which it is neceſſary that I ſhould here diſtinguiſh by the names I gave them, Puſs, Tiney, and Beſs. Notwithſtanding the two feminine appellatives, I muſt inform you, that they were all males. Immediately commencing carpenter, I built them houſes to ſleep in: each had a ſeparate apartment ſo contrived, that their ordure would paſs through the bottom of it; an earthen pan placed under each, received whatſoever fell; which being duly emptied and waſhed, they were thus kept perfectly ſweet and clean. In the day-time they had the range of a hall, and at night retired each to his own bed, never intruding into that of another.

Puſs grew preſently familiar, would leap into my lap, raiſe himſelf upon his hinder feet, and bite the hair from my temples. He would ſuffer me to take him up, and to carry him about in my arms; and has more than once fallen faſt aſleep upon my knee. He was ill three days, during which time I nurſed him, kept him apart from his fellows, that they might not moleſt him; (for, like many other wild animals, they perſecute one of their own ſpecies that is ſick); and, by conſtant care, and trying him with a variety of herbs, reſtored him to perfect health. No creature could be more grateful than my patient after his recovery; a ſentiment which he moſt ſignificantly expreſſed, by licking my hand, firſt the back of it, then the palm, then every finger ſeparately, then between all the fingers, as if anxious to leave no part of it unſaluted; a ceremony which he never performed but once again upon a ſimilar occaſion. Finding him extremely tractable, I made it my cuſtom to carry him always after breakfaſt into the garden, where he hid himſelf generally under the leaves of a cucumber vine, ſleeping or chewing the cud till evening; in the leaves alſo of that vine he found a favourite repaſt. I had not long habituated him to this taſte of liberty, before he began to be impatient for the return of the time when he might enjoy it. He would invite me to the garden by drumming upon my knee, and by a look of ſuch expreſſion as it was not impoſſible to miſinterpret. If this rhetoric did not immediately ſucceed, he would take the ſkirt of my coat between his teeth, and pull at it with all his force. Thus Puſs might be ſaid to be perfectly tamed, the ſhyneſs of his nature was done away, and, on the whole, it was viſible, by many ſymptoms which I have not room to enumerate, that he was happier in human ſociety than when ſhut up with his natural companions.

Not ſo Tiney. Upon him the kindeſt treatment had not the leaſt effect. He, too, was ſick, and in his ſickneſs had an equal ſhare of my attention; but if, after his recovery, I took the liberty to ſtroke him, he would grunt, ſtrike with his fore feet, ſpring forward, and bite. He was, however, very entertaining in his way; even his ſurlineſs was matter of mirth; and in his play he preſerved ſuch an air of gravity, and performed his feats with ſuch a ſolemnity of manner, that in him too I had an agreeable companion.

Beſs, who died ſoon after he was full grown, and whoſe death was occaſioned by his being turned into his box, which had been waſhed, while it was yet damp, was a hare of great humour and drollery. Puſs was tamed by gentle uſage; Tiney was not to be tamed at all; and Beſs had a courage and confidence that made him tame from the beginning. I always admitted them into the parlour after ſupper, when, the carpet affording their feet a firm hold, they would friſk and bound, and play a thouſand gambols, in which Beſs, being remarkably ſtrong and fearleſs, was always ſuperior to the reſt, and proved himſelf the Veſtris of the party. One evening the cat being in the room had the hardineſs to pat Beſs upon the cheek; an indignity which he reſented by drumming upon her back with ſuch violence, that the cat was happy to eſcape from under his paws, and hide herſelf.

You obſerve, Sir, that I deſcribe theſe animals as having each a character of his own. Such they were in fact; and their countenances were ſo expreſſive of that character, that, when I looked only on the face of either, I immediately knew which it was. It is ſaid, that a ſhepherd,

herd, however numerous his flock, ſoon becomes ſo familiar with their features, that he can, by that indication only, diſtinguiſh each from all the reſt; and yet, to a common obſerver, the difference is hardly perceptible. I doubt not that the ſame diſcrimination in the caſt of countenances would be diſcoverable in hares; and am perſuaded, that among a thouſand of them no two could be found exactly ſimilar; a circumſtance little ſuſpected by thoſe who have not had opportunity to obſerve it. Theſe creatures have a ſingular ſagacity in diſcovering the minuteſt alteration that is made in the place to which they are accuſtomed, and inſtantly apply their noſe to the examination of a new object. A ſmall hole being burnt in the carpet, it was mended with a patch; and that patch in a moment underwent the ſtricteſt ſcrutiny. They ſeem too to be very much directed by the ſmell in the choice of their favourites; to ſome perſons, though they ſaw them daily, they could never be reconciled, and would even ſcream when they attempted to touch them: but a miller coming in, engaged their affections at once; his powdered coat had charms that were irreſiſtible. You will not wonder, Sir, that my intimate acquaintance with theſe ſpecimens of the kind has taught me to hold the ſportſman's amuſement in abhorrence; he little knows what amiable creatures he perſecutes, of what gratitude they are capable, how chearful they are in their ſpirits, what enjoyment they have of life, and that, impreſſed as they ſeem with a peculiar dread of man, it is only becauſe man gives them peculiar cauſe for it.

That I may not be tedious, I will juſt give you a ſhort ſummary of thoſe articles of diet that ſuit them beſt, and then retire to make room for ſome more important correſpondent.

I take it to be a general opinion that they graze; but it is an erroneous one, at leaſt graſs is not their ſtaple; they ſeem rather to uſe it medicinally, ſoon quitting it for leaves of almoſt any kind. Sowthiſtle, dent-de-lion, and lettuce, are their favourite vegetables, eſpecially the laſt. I diſcovered by accident, that fine white ſand is in great eſtimation with them; I ſuppoſe as a digeſtive. It happened that I was cleaning a bird-cage while the hares were with me; I placed a pot filled with ſuch ſand upon the floor, to which, being at once directed by a ſtrong inſtinct, they devoured it voraciouſly. Since that time I have generally taken care to ſee them well ſupplied with it. They account green corn a delicacy, both blade and ſtalk; but the ear they ſeldom eat. Straw of any kind, eſpecially wheat-ſtraw, is another of their dainties: they will feed greedily upon oats; but if furniſhed with clean ſtraw, never want them: it ſerves them alſo for a bed; and, if ſhaken up daily, will be kept ſweet and dry for a conſiderable time. They do not indeed require aromatic herbs, but will eat a ſmall quantity of them with great reliſh, and are particularly fond of the plant called muſk. They ſeem to reſemble ſheep in this, that, if their paſtures be too ſucculent, they are very ſubject to the rot; to prevent which, I always made bread their principal nouriſhment; and, filling a pan with it cut into ſmall ſquares, placed it every evening in their chambers; for they feed only at evening and in the night. During the winter, when vegetables are not to be got, I mingled this meſs of bread with threds of carrot, adding to it the rind of apples cut extremely thin: for though they are fond of the paring, the apple itſelf diſguſts them. Theſe, however, not being a ſufficient ſubſtitute for the juice of ſummer herbs, they muſt at this time be ſupplied with water; but ſo placed, that they cannot overſet it into their beds. I muſt not omit, that occaſionally they are much pleaſed with twigs of hawthorn, and of the common briar, eating even the very wood when it is of conſiderable thickneſs.

Beſs, I have ſaid, died young; Tiney lived to be nine years old, and died at laſt, I have reaſon to think, of ſome hurt in his loins by a fall. Puſs is ſtill living, and has juſt completed his tenth year; diſcovering no ſigns of decay, nor even of age, except that he is grown more diſcreet and leſs frolickſome than he was. I cannot conclude, Sir, without informing you, that I have lately introduced a dog to his acquaintance, a ſpaniel that had never ſeen a hare, to a hare that had never ſeen a ſpaniel. I did it with great caution; but there was no real need of it. Puſs diſcovered no token of fear, nor Marquis the leaſt ſymptom of hoſtility. There is therefore, it ſhould ſeem, no natural antipathy between dog and hare; but the purſuit of the one occaſions

caſions the flight of the other, and the dog purſues becauſe he is trained to it: they eat bread at the ſame time out of the ſame hand, and are in all reſpects ſociable and friendly. Yours, &c W. C.

P. S. I ſhould not do complete juſtice to my ſubject, did I not add, that they have no ill ſcent belonging to them; that they are indefatigably nice in keeping themſelves clean, for which purpoſe nature has furniſhed them with a bruſh under each foot; and that they are never infeſted by any vermin. *Gent. Mag.*

POETRY.

ODE for his Majeſty's Birth-day, June 4. 1784. Written by W. Whitehead, Eſq; Poet-Laureat.

HAIL to the day, whoſe beams again,
Returning, claim the choral ſtrain,
And bid us breathe our annual vows
To the firſt power that Britain knows;
The power which, though itſelf reſtrain'd,
And ſubject to that juſt controul
Which many an arduous conflict gain'd,
Connects, unites, and animates the whole.

Yon radiant ſun, whoſe central force
Wings back each planet's vagrant courſe,
And through the ſyſtems holds imperial ſway,
Bound by the ſame inherent laws,
Ev'n while it ſeems the active cauſe,
Promotes the general good, as much confin'd as they.

That wond'rous plan, thro' ages ſought,
Which elder Egypt never taught,
Nor Greece with all her letter'd lore,
Nor ſtruggling Rome could e'er explore,
Though many a form of rule ſhe try'd:
That wond'rous plan has Britain found,
Which curbs licentiouſneſs and pride,
Yet leaves true liberty without a wound.

The fierce Plantagenets beheld
Its growing ſtrength, and deign'd to yield;
Th' imperious Tudors frown'd, and felt aggriev'd:
Th' unhappy race, whoſe faults we mourn,
Delay'd awhile its wiſh'd return,
'Till Brunſwick perfected what Naſſau had atchiev'd.

From that bright æra of renown
Aſtræa walks the world again;
Her fabled form the nations own,
With all th' attendant bleſſings in her train.

Hark! with what gen'ral loud acclaim
They venerate the Britiſh name,
When forms of rule are in the balance weigh'd;
And pour their torrents of applauſe
On the fair iſle, whoſe equal laws
Controul the ſceptre, and protect the ſpade.

The triple chain, which binds them faſt,
Like Homer's golden one, deſcends from Jove:
Long may the ſacred union laſt,
And the mix'd powers in mutual concert move,
Each tempering each, and liſtening to the call
Of genuine public good, bleſt ſource and end of all.

TWO ODES

Tranſlated from the German of
FR. LEOP. COUNT STOLBERG*.

I. THE APPARITION.

I

RECLIN'D I lay on graſſy bed,
Spring ſcatter'd odours o'er my head:
On her alone I mus'd, who of my ſoul
Alike by day and night fills and inſpires the whole.

II

The falling beam, dew-dropping ſkies,
And lulling zephyrs, cloſ'd my eyes,
Juſt as the ſpangled evening 'gan appear,
And Philomela's notes died on my ſlumbering ear.

III

When lo! a form, celeſtial bright,
In viſion broke upon my ſight:
The gleam of Heſp'rus in her eyes I view'd,
Her heavenly ſmiling lips exhal'd beatitude.

IV.

Like waves by Veſper ting'd with gold,
Her robe in many a roſy fold [ground,
Flow'd o'er her limbs light-gliding o'er the
While clouds of fragrance ſhed ambroſia all around.

V.

"Thou knew'ſt me once," with accent mild,
She ſaid, while ev'ry feature ſmil'd;
"Thou knew'ſt me once," the heavenly form purſu'd, [bedew'd
And with a nectar-drop my trembling lips

VI.

"Jov is my name; with endleſs flower
In realms immortal blooms my bower:
Yet ſtoops my pinion ev'n to earth below,
And with my nectar-drops I ſweeten mortal woe.

VII.

I love thee; come, to me devote
Thy beating heart, thy trembling note:
O come, and baniſh her, who of thy ſoul
Alike by day and night fills and inſpires the whole."

VIII.

"Goddeſs!" I cry'd, "the mortal race
Inceſſant ſigh to ſee thy face;
In thee immortals find their higheſt bliſs;
I love thee too; but oh! ſpare if I judge amiſs.

IX.

Lo! to attend thee I forbear:
Yet ſpare the mortal, Laura ſpare.
How can I baniſh her, who of my ſoul
Alike by day and night fills and inſpires the whole?"

X.

As light'ning quick ſhe fled, and I
Awoke as quick: my heart beat high;
Yet ſtill it beat for her, who of my ſoul
Alike by day and night fills and inſpires the whole.

J. S.

* *This Count and his brother have diſtinguiſhed themſelves by their poetical productions, and are both greatly eſteemed as noble ornaments of the German literature.*

II. HO-

II. HOMER.

I.

HAIL to the Bard! to Homer hail!
From trembling lips and gliſtening eyes,
Burning, melting ecſtaſies
Shall never fail
With gratitude's ſoft due to ſwell thy ſong,
As in ſtupendous courſe it rolls along.

II.

All parent Nature pour'd the torrent down
From Ida's ſacred crown,
And ſaw its copious flood with look benign,
Burſting from ſources all divine.
With heavenly muſic, heavenly gleam,
Like the night's ſtar-ſtudded zone,
It ſounded and it ſhone,
While laughing vales receiv'd, and echoes hail'd the ſtream.

III.

Nature ſaw, with look delighted,
And to the lucid brink invited
Her daughters, grac'd with golden hair:
Truth and beauty, light-deſcending,
O'er its liquid boſom bending,
In pleaſing wonder ſaw their own bleſt image there.

IV.

Nature early fondneſs ſhow'd,
When in the ſequeſter'd vale,
Which with newly-mingled wave,
Simois and Scamander lave,
Thy mother, faint, let fall her precious load
Midſt dew-drops of the dale.

V.

Ev'n then inſpir'd,
" In a fine frenzy *" didſt thou gaze
On the ſun's departing blaze,
As, o'er th'impurpled Helleſpont retir'd,
He kenn'd with greeting glance thy face
From the ſnowy heights of Thrace:
Straining to graſp the golden ball of day,
Thy little hands were ſpread, and reddened in its ray †.

VI.

Nature ſweetly ſmil'd,
And fondly preſt
The ſuckling to her parent breaſt;
Foſter'd there her darling child,
Thy genius form'd immenſe, as once ſhe form'd the ſkies.
And as ſhe taught the roſe
Its bluſhing beauties to diſcloſe,
And drink celeſtial due,
Thus form'd and thus imbu'd thy opening faculties
With graces ever new.

VII.

She gave thee with invention's flaming eye
New earths, new heavens, to deſcry;
She gave (the utmoſt that her love could do)
Tears to every feeling true: [o'erflow,
Thoſe that with guſhing flood the countenance
Where boiſt'rous paſſions glow;
And thoſe more mild and meek,
Which trembling eye-lids pour
In trickling ſhower
Down the changing cheek:
Gave to the ſoul
The dove's ſimplicity and eagle's ſight;
Like to thy ſong,
Now gliding ſoft along,
As rivulets by Cynthia's ſilver light,
Now thundering wild and loud, as headlong ſurges roll.

May 8. 1782. J. Sr x.

* *Shakeſpeare.*

† *This beautiful imagery will immediately remind an Engliſh reader of the mythological birth aſcribed by our great Lyric to another* " *Darling of Nature,*" *in his* Progreſs of Poetry;

" the dauntleſs child
Stretch'd forth his little arms, and ſmil'd,"

&c. to which this is ſo ſimilar, that we cannot ſuppoſe the German to have been unacquainted with the Engliſh poet.

Written under an Old Yew-Tree, *in* Ribbesford *Wood, near Bewdley.*

BEneath this ſolemn gloom-ſurrounded Yew,
A Guardian Genius dwells, if Fame ſays true;
Who oft at moonlight ſkims yon tangled ways,
Treads the lone walks, or in the valley ſtrays;
Aloft now borne on friendſhip's ſteady wing,
He ſoars, to heal the wounds afflictions bring:
The tear he wipes, impells ſweet hope to glow,
When ſleep denies, and dæmons ſport with wo.
As once within this penſive ſhade I lay,
Breathing the pure melliſluous ſcents of May,
While round on ev'ry buſh, attun'd to love,
The jocund birds in ſweeteſt warblings ſtrove;
A gentle ſlumber, ſoft as genial air, [care;
Stole thro' my nerves, and ſilenc'd all my
When lo! in ſylvan garb before me ſtood
The ſacred Genius of the mazy wood;
Around he threw his eyes with look benign,
His hand he wav'd, when thus the form divine:
" Mortal, be wiſe—be wiſe," again he ſaid,
" And in the path of virtue conſtant tread;
Lives there the man to vice a willing ſlave,
But ſtands the finiſh'd coxcomb, fool, or knave;
Till loſt to fame, to dire diſeaſe a prey,
He penſive ſighs, and pines his hours away?
Be wiſe—let honour ev'ry action guide,
Ambition ſhun, and ſhun the ſlaves of pride.
Ah! would'ſt thou taſte of life's tranſcendent joy,
Far from a vicious world for ever fly:
There peace, to few, alas! but little known,
Eyes her lov'd vale, for ſolitude's her own;
There *Wiſdom*, *Virtue*, *Health*, the goddeſs join,
And on the brows of Worth their wreaths entwine."
While thus with gracious ſmile the phantom ſpoke,
A ſudden ſtart my pleaſing ſlumber broke;
I roſe—while Conſcience, faithful to her truſt,
The moral viſion own'd, and own'd it juſt.
So Truth, whene'er her heav'nly ſtrain ſhe ſings,
Strikes Error dumb, and ſure conviction brings. J. M.

HISTORICAL AFFAIRS.

TURKY.

Conſtantinople, May 25. The Grand Signior has juſt iſſued an imperial edict, exempting Britiſh merchants for the future from the *Maſtaria* duty on all goods imported from their country to Conſtantinople, and on ſuch unprohibited merchandiſes as they export from Conſtantinople to their own country, after paying the other cuſtoms preſcribed by the Imperial capitulations.

The plague prevails in many parts of this city, particularly in the quarters of the arſenal and harbour; though its progreſs is happily retarded by the coldneſs of the weather, and the northerly winds. The accounts from the iſlands are very alarming. At Smyrna the infection has increaſed conſiderably, and has again manifeſted itſelf at Kerſon. *Lond. gaz.*

Venice, June 5. The plague rages in Dalmatia, particularly at Spalatro, which city, conſiſting lately of about four thouſand inhabitants, is already nearly depopulated. The ſuburbs, however, are yet free from the contagion; nor has it hitherto extended itſelf further in the neighbouring iſland of Brazza. *L. gaz.*

RUSSIA.

Peterſburg, May 1. The Empreſs has taken a reſolution to eſtabliſh a college of the principal commercial houſes, with power to decide, without appeal, all differences, and other points in litigation, relative to trade, that are not of a criminal nature. There have been nominated for that purpoſe, four Ruſſian merchants, four Engliſh merchants, and a like number of the other reſpectable nations; who, after having formed their plan, are to ſubmit it to her Imperial Majeſty's approbation. Hitherto all differences relative to trade were judged by the tribunals of this empire; the Engliſh alone were authoriſed to get theirs decided by the College of Commerce.

The following is an account of the expenditure of the Empreſs of Ruſſia, on an average of ſeveral years.

	Sterling.
	L.
Eſtabliſhment of the palace, kitchen, chambers, &c. -	260,000
Wardrobe, and expence of the perſon, - -	300,000
Preſents, - -	256,500
New furniture, - -	130,000
Buildings, - -	*L.* 270,000
Libraries, academies, &c.	67,000
Penſions to men of letters,	22,000
Stables and journies, -	84,000
Allowance to the Grand Duke and Ducheſs, -	250,000
Ditto to their children, -	67,000

UNITED PROVINCES.

Hague, May 21. Amidſt all the diſtractions which at preſent exiſt in Holland, a very ſingular circumſtance has occurred. The patriots, who are the French party, have, by their intrigues, diſcovered a written engagement, executed 18 years ago, between the Pr. Stadtholder and Lewis Duke of Brunſwick; wherein the former binds himſelf to follow implicitly the advice and direction of the Duke in all matters of public concern. The execution of the deed is witneſſed by M. Van Blyſwyck, the Grand Penſionary of Holland, who is now one of the leaders of the French party. The Penſionary muſt feel himſelf in a very awkward predicament, if, according to the ſpirit of his party, he now takes any ſtep to condemn that act of the Stadtholder, to which, at the date of its execution, he was aiding and inſtrumental.

A late Dutch mail brought the Stadtholder's anſwer to the above charge:

"I make no difficulty to put in my anſwer: I am in no ſhape reſtrained by the Field Marſhal from giving ſuch orders as might have tended to ſecure the frontiers of that ſtate from any attack whatever. And although I am not bound to give an account of my conduct as Captain General of the Union to any one, yet I am ready to ſhew my compliance to the deſire of their great and Noble Mightineſſes, by communicating to them the motives by which I have been induced not to ſend any great number of troops towards the frontiers before the States had agreed to the reſolution of the 7th inſtant.

As to the written engagement between me and the aforeſaid Duke, which took place on the 3d of May 1766, I never confirmed it by oath. Hearing of the reports, equally malicious and void of foundation, which had been induſtriouſly circulated, I had reſolved to hold this tranſaction no longer ſecret; and I ſhall not fail to lay an authentic copy of the inſtrument alluded to before their Noble and Great Mightineſſes.

WM PR. VAN ORANGE."

ITALY.

Rome, April 14. About midnight ſeveral ſhocks of an earthquake were felt at Albano, Freſcati, Richia, Geſano, Livinia, and parts adjacent. They ſucceeded each other until half paſt two in the morning; during which interval there were ſeven violent ſhocks. The terrified inhabitants abandoned their houſes; happily no lives were loſt, and only one houſe was thrown down at Richia.

Lucca, April 14. The inhabitants of the villages of St Caſciano de Controne, belonging to this republic, and ſituated at the foot of the Apennines, lately experienced a moſt terrible diſaſter. After a violent rain, accompanied with high winds, on the 29th of laſt month, about noon, an extraordinary motion of the earth was felt in the village of Celle; which occaſioned the inhabitants to leave their falling houſes, with what effects they could collect amidſt their horror and amazement, and retreat to a large plain, driving their cattle thither for ſafety. In the evening of the ſame day, they had reaſon to congratulate themſelves for the prudent precaution they had adopted; for a dreadful chaſm opening, not leſs than fifty houſes, which had been inhabited by about 300 people, were in an inſtant ſwallowed by the earth. The effects of this phenomenon were felt in a circumference of about three miles, which now exhibits a ſhocking ſcene of deſolation. The loſs ſuſtained is eſtimated at 55,000 crowns.

AMERICA.

By the United States in Congreſs aſſembled.

Annapolis, Maryland, Jan 14.

Reſolved unanimouſly, nine States being preſent, That it be, and it is hereby earneſtly recommended to the legiſlatures of the reſpective Sates, to provide for the reſtitution of all eſtates, rights, and properties, which have been confiſcated, belonging to real Britiſh ſubjects; and alſo of the eſtates, rights, and properties, of perſons reſident in diſtricts which were in the poſſeſſion of his Britannic Majeſty's arms, at any time between Nov. 30. 1782 and Jan. 14. 1784, and who have not borne arms againſt the United States; and that perſons of any other deſcription ſhall have free liberty to go to any part or parts of the Thirteen United States, and therein to remain twelve months, unmoleſted in their endeavours to obtain the reſtitution of ſuch of their eſtates, rights, and properties, as may have been confiſcated.

And it is alſo hereby earneſtly recommended to the ſeveral States, to reconſider and reviſe all their acts or laws regarding the premiſes, ſo as to render the ſaid laws or acts perfectly conſiſtent, not only with juſtice and equity, but with that ſpirit of conciliation which, on the return of the bleſſings of peace, ſhould univerſally prevail.

And it is hereby alſo earneſtly recommended to the ſeveral States, that the eſtates, rights, and properties, of ſuch laſt-mentioned perſons, ſhould be reſtored to them, they refunding to perſons who may be now in poſſeſſion, the *bona fide* price (where any has been given) which ſuch perſons may have paid on purchaſing any of the ſaid lands, rights, or properties, ſince the confiſcation.

CH. THOMSON, Sec.

May 27. Arrived at Philadelphia, on board the ſhip Queen of France, the pictures of their Moſt Chriſtian Majeſties, the King and Queen. They are in full length. The King had garments like thoſe he wore on the day of his coronation. The royal throne is on his left ſide, decorated with the attributes of juſtice, as marks of the diſpoſition of their great ally: he holds the ancient ſceptre of France in his hand, and the crown, with the hand of juſtice, lie on a cuſhion on the right. This is ſaid by the connoiſſeurs to be a maſterly piece of the art of painting. The Queen is dreſſed in a royal mantle, ſpread with a fleur de luce, and a gown of ſattin, trimmed with gold fringe and taſſels. On a table lies her crown, next to a vaſe filled with flowers. The table is covered with red velvet, embroidered with the Imperial eagle of her family. Each picture is about thirteen feet ſix inches high, including the frames.

ENGLAND.

"*Sherborne, Hants, June* 7. A very extraordinary ſtorm of hail happened on the 5th, which was preceded by drops of rain as broad as a half crown. Theſe drops of rain were ſoon followed by round hail, and then by pieces of ice, ſome of which meaſured more than three inches in girth; theſe ſtones coming from the N. W. broke all the windows and garden glaſſes which were open to that quarter, but the principal damage was done in ſeveral farms at the N. W. of

of this village, where it has made great havoc indeed. The beans, peaſe, and clover, are in appearance half ruined; but the wheat not being in the ear we hope has eſcaped pretty well. All the hop gardens in that part of the pariſh are much injured, and yet all the while there was no hail at ſeveral of the neighbouring villages, neither did it extend to the top of this; the ſtorm appeared to have been not more than a mile in breadth. In the ſpot where the centre of the ſtorm paſſed, there aroſe a vaſt and ſudden flood, which ſeems to have done as much miſchief as the hail; the ſoil is ſwept out of the corn-fields into the lanes, and the meadows filled with mud and gravel; ſuch a torrent came down the hollow lanes as tore up the very rocks. It is impoſſible at preſent to eſtimate the damage. The great pieces of hail were, I thought, ſomewhat of the ſhape of cockles, with a white nucleus in each; it lay three feet deep in ſome places, and continued all day yeſterday."

A letter from Birmingham ſays, that on Friday, May 31. in the evening, there fell in Welch Pool, and neighbourhood, the moſt violent and heavy rain and hail, attended with the moſt tremendous thunder and lightning, ever remembered in thoſe parts. The torrents of water pouring from the long mountain, brought down a moſt amazing quantity of earth and large ſtones, carrying away every mound and railing in its courſe, and entirely choked up the little bridges acroſs the roads, ſo as to overflow them in ſeveral places.

On Saturday, June 19. came on to be tried at Guildhall, before the Lord Chief Baron, the action for damages, brought by Capt. Sutton againſt Com. Johnſton, for the arreſt of the former, after the engagement with the French fleet in Port Praya road, on April 16. 1781. [vol. 43. p. 320.]

Mr Lee, in laying before the jury the caſe of Capt. Sutton, undertook to prove, that the conduct of the Commodore, in ſuſpending his client from the command of the Iſis, and putting him under arreſt, was not only unjuſtifiable in the pretence of diſobeying ſignals, but a malicious effort of a ſuperior officer to ruin the reputation of his inferior, and a raſh, violent exerciſe of his authority as a ſervant of his ſovereign, without any ground whatſoever. Capt. Sutton wanted no eulogium to raiſe his merit. He was a tried ſeaman, and in the action at Port Praya had added a freſh laurel to his former atchievements: he fought hard with dreadful odds, and had earned thoſe fruits of his labour of which, by the malice of the Commodore, he had been ſtripped by his ſuſpenſion.

After ſtating, in very marked and bold language againſt the defendant, the ſeverities ſuffered by Capt. Sutton, in undergoing the odium and diſgrace of an arreſt, the counſel inſiſted, that the Commodore, had he not been influenced by perſonal reſentment, might have tried the plaintiff immediately at ſea, without taking him round in the expedition to the Cape, and bringing him impriſoned to England. This he ſhould, in humanity and juſtice, have done, and not have delayed a meaſure which every ſubject charged with any offence has a right to, that of a ſpeedy trial. He laid the damages at 30,000l. for the impriſonment, and loſs of a proportionable ſhare of the prizes taken in that expedition from the Dutch.

Sir W. Burnaby, Capt. Pigott, Capt. Clements, Capt. Hands, and ſeveral other officers, were examined for the plaintiff by Mr Lee, Mr Erſkine, Mr Peckham, and Mr Fielding. The effect of their evidence went fully to exculpate Capt. Sutton's behaviour on the day of action, and to prove, that the court-martial might have been held at ſea; to ſhew that the Iſis had ſuffered beyond a poſſibility to come out and join, according to the orders of the Commodore; and that the plaintiff acted as a brave officer, whoſe courage was no ways diſmayed, but who diſplayed every token of diſcipline and bravery.

By conſent of the court and counſel, Commodore Johnſtone himſelf croſs-examined theſe witneſſes to nautical points, and met with many mortifying anſwers, impeaching his own conduct as the commander of the expedition. The Commodore preſerved an even temper throughout the whole of his diſappointments; and conſidering that for many hours he had the opinion of ſuch brave and veteran officers in flat oppoſition to his project, and publiſhed before all the world, the patience and coolneſs of the Commodore appeared truly ſurpriſing. He aſked one of the captains, whom he had compelled to declare his idea of the engagement to be contrary to his approba-

tion,

tion, whether he had not in a converſation with him immediately afterwards ſaid, it was as brilliant an action as ever he remembered. He did ſo; but in the afternoon, when he knew all the circumſtances of ſituation, and reviewed the plan and manœuvres, he thought very differently, and that had ever ſince been his judgement of the buſineſs.

The maſter of the Elizabeth tender, which attended the fleet to obſerve the ſignals, ſwore that the Iſis anſwered the Commodore within half an hour.

Mr Lee called for the original letter from Commodore Johnſtone to Lord Hillſborough, giving an account of the action, wherein the defendant alledged that the plaintiff diſobeyed the ſignal for three hours. This letter, he contended, was a clear conviction of malice. Againſt the production of this letter, the Attorney-General, Mr Scott, and Mr Baldwin, counſel for the defendant, ſtrongly argued: a long converſation enſued. The Attorney-General and Mr Lee had a ſmart diſpute; the former had no objection to have it read as a matter of favour granted, but he would never conſent to have papers, ſacred and private in the Secretary of State's office, brought forth as of right. Mr Lee told him he talked nonſenſe—that notice had been given to produce them; they were accordingly brought into court, and it would, eſpecially after the King's leave had been obtained, be a breach of national honour to with-hold the letter. The Lord Chief Baron ended the conteſt, by directing the letter, which ſtated that Capt. Suttor diſobeyed the ſignal for three hours, to be read. It appeared that many parts were omitted in the Gazette.

The Attorney-General began the defence of Com. Johnſtone with obſerving, that the cauſe had been managed more like an inquiry into the conduct of his client, than to the queſtion which alone had to do with the preſent action, which was ſimply this, Whether Capt. Sutton had or had not obeyed the orders of his ſuperior? and whether the Commodore had maliciouſly put him under an arreſt? His learned friend, Mr Lee, had not in his opening mentioned a word reſpecting the acquittal of Capt. Sutton by a court-martial. As he had introduced the record which had been read, he was aſtoniſhed the learned counſel for the Captain ſhould be ſilent on ſo material a part of the caſe. He could not poſſibly account for it, except by preſuming that in the reply of his learned friend, he ſhould labour that point to ſupply the omiſſion of the opening, a chaſm he ſuppoſed made for the very purpoſe. He cordially agreed in one conſideration, that a more important cauſe never came before a court; it regarded the diſcipline of the navy moſt eſſentially indeed. The queſtion was no leſs than, whether a commanding officer, by the acquittal of every inferior who to him appeared a fit ſubject for an arreſt, is to be peſtered with an action for damages? It was a great and moſt conſequential queſtion: there would be an end of diſcipline if the plaintiff ſucceeded in this cauſe. Who would government get to proceed on hazardous expeditions, if he was liable to be called upon in a court of juſtice? He appealed to the jury, if they could conſcientiouſly determine that there was no ground for ſuperſeding Captain Sutton. The court-martial took eleven days in the inquiry; and to the ſame tribunal Capt. Sutton ought to have applied for condemnation of the Commodore's conduct. It was a very unfit ſubject for an Engliſh jury.

As to the trial of Capt. Sutton at ſea, it was a dangerous doctrine to advance, and more ſo to encourage. Such a ſtep would have retarded the expedition, and been of much injury to his Majeſty's ſervice. He hoped the jury were not to be guided by party prejudices without doors, but to lay out of their minds every degree of conſideration beyond the evidence before them.

He then called witneſſes to combat the profeſſional opinion of the officers called by the plaintiff.

Mr Lee made one of the ableſt replies we ever heard; ridiculed the advice of the Attorney-General, for an Engliſhman to reſort to a court-martial for damages, and not to a jury of his country.

The Lord Chief Baron, in his charge to the jury, obſerved, that it was neceſſary they were ſatisfied of two facts: Firſt, That the Commodore was actuated by malice to order Capt. Sutton under an arreſt: 2dly, That he could not try him at ſea with naval convenience. He ſaid, that the extreme length of the trial prevented him making any obſervations on the evidence: he left the whole to their conſideration.

The jury, which was ſpecial, retired about ſeven o'clock, and at eight on Sunday morning gave a verdict for 5000l. damages to Capt. Sutton.

SCOTLAND.

On Saturday the 22d of May the celebrated Mrs Siddons made her firſt appearance at the Edinburgh Theatre, in the character of Belvidera in Venice Preſerv'd. It is impoſſible for words to do juſtice to the merit of this inimitable woman.—Her natural qualifications are very uncommon. The ſymmetry of her perſon, the wonderful expreſſion of her countenance, which is at once bold, dignified, and beautiful, the ſtrong penetration of her eye, and the plaintiveneſs of her voice, captivated every auditor. But in the juſt conception of the character, in animated expreſſion and elegant action, nothing ſurely could exceed her. In ſeveral ſcenes her powers were aſtoniſhing indeed,—the laſt occaſioned ſeveral ladies to faint.

May 24. ſhe played Mrs Beverley in the Gameſter. Her judgement, taſte, and ſenſibility, in theatrical repreſentation, perhaps never were equalled. In attending to her, one loſes all recollection of fictitious repreſentation; and as ſhe herſelf ſeems unconſcious of acting a part before an audience, they are affected as by the real repreſentation of nature. The many inimitable ſtrokes ſhe exhibited in the amiable, intereſting, domeſtic character of Mrs Beverley, proved her the perfect miſtreſs of the tender and pathetic.

On the 26th ſhe repeated Belvidera, and on the 27th Mrs Beverley.

On May 29. in Zara, which is not an amiable character, ſhe gave high ſatisfaction, and exhibited all the greatneſs and dignity of exalted majeſty. Every thing ſhe ſays is ſtriking. The ſcene where ſhe is alone with Oſmyn, and reproaches him for his indifference to her, is one of the beſt. Her manner and look, on pronouncing the following words, are wonderful:

Now then you ſee me—— [look,
But with ſuch dumb and thankleſs eyes you
Better I was unſeen, than ſeen thus coldly.

But her greateſt ſcene is in the third act, when ſhe diſcovers Oſmyn with Almeria.—The contending paſſions of jealouſy, pride, and revenge, perhaps, never were expreſſed with ſo much dignity and force as upon this occaſion.—She is aſtoniſhingly great in ſpeaking theſe words:

Vile and ingrate! too late thou ſhalt repent
The baſe injuſtice thou haſt done my love;
Yes, thou ſhalt know, ſpite of thy paſt diſtreſs,
And all thoſe ills which thou ſo long haſt mourn'd,
Heaven has no rage like love to hatred turn'd,
Nor hell a fury, like a woman ſcorn'd.

This play was repeated on June 10.

On the 1ſt of June ſhe acted the part of Lady Randolph, in Douglas.—It muſt have been very flattering to the author to ſee ſuch meaning and expreſſion given to his ideas, and to behold ſuch an audience melted ſo often into tears.—Mrs Crawford plays this character perhaps with more ſolemnity and as much dignity as Mrs Siddons, but ſurely not with ſo much intereſting ſenſibility. It would much exceed our limits to point out or deſcribe the many beauties that charmed us in the repreſentation of this piece. Mrs Siddons never once diſappoints the ſpectator, but from the firſt moment of her appearance ſhe intereſts, and carries along his admiration of every tone, look, and geſture. While the diſcovery of her ſon gradually proceeds, ſhe ſuſpends the audience in the moſt pleaſing intereſting anxiety.

During the beautiful narration of Old Norval, when he ſays,

Red came the river down, and loud and oft
The angry ſpirit of the water ſhriek'd,
At the dead hour of night was heard the cry
Of one in jeopardy." &c. &c.

ſhe kept the audience by her looks and attitude in the moſt ſilent anxious attention, and they read in her countenance every movement of her ſoul. But when ſhe breaks out

Inhuman that thou art!
How could'ſt thou kill what waves and tempeſt ſpar'd?

they muſt be of a flinty nature indeed who burſt not into tears.

When ſhe diſcovers herſelf to her ſon:

My ſon! my ſon!
I am thy mother, and the wife of Douglas!

we believe there was not a dry eye in the whole houſe.

When Randolph and Glenalvon attack Douglas, and he enters with Glenalvon's ſword, her expreſſion, in the cry of "He lives! he lives!" is paſt deſcription.

This play was acted again on the 7th.

June 3. Mrs Siddons appeared in the part of Iſabella in Southern's tragedy of the Fatal Marriage. In this part ſhe ſhewed powers ſuperior to any perhaps that ever were exhibited on the ſtage. She melted the audience at one time with pity, and at another "harrowed up the ſoul" with terror. In ſhort, ſhe was, if the expreſſion may be allowed, terribly affecting, and to ſuch a degree, that ſhe threw many, both gentlemen and ladies, into faintings and hyſterics.—When Mrs Siddons plays Mrs Beverley or Lady Randolph, the tears flow with ſympathetic tenderneſs,

tenderneſs, and they leave rather a pleaſing intereſting melancholy on the mind. But in Iſabella her looks are diſtraction, and her ſcreams are horror. She tears the heart, and leaves it in agony. She is too powerful in this character for moſt peoples feelings, and ſhe had well nigh made a real tragedy in the houſe.

On the 5th ſhe appeared in the character of Jane Shore. This has been her leaſt pleaſing and intereſting character, and that owing to the author, not to the actreſs. Indeed, it is ſcarcely poſſible, we imagine, to give dignity and intereſt to ſuch a character.——In the ſtruggle with Haſtings ſhe was admirable, as alſo in the repulſe from Alicia's door. The laſt ſcene ſhe played in a new manner. When ſhe diſcovers her huſband, her clinging to Belmour, and hiding herſelf, is beautiful and affecting. In dying ſhe is always natural. In the laſt ſcenes ſhe ſhowed her taſte in adapting her dreſs to the ſituation of an outcaſt wanderer in the ſtreets, for three days, without houſe or home!

On the 9th ſhe performed the part of Euphraſia, in the Grecian daughter, for her own benefit. The play was received with uncommon burſts of applauſe, and afforded a ſtriking proof how much the ſucceſs of a piece on the ſtage depends upon a good actor or actreſs. This piece, which, as a dramatic compoſition, intereſts but little in the cloſet, yet, at the theatre, we applaud; but it is to be obſerved this only happened where Mrs Siddons was upon the ſtage, and her inimitable action, looks, and geſtures, will make any compoſition pleaſe.—There is hardly a good ſpeech in the whole performance. The principal ſubject is indelicate and diſguſting for theatrical repreſentation. The filial piety of Euphraſia ſimply narrated might pleaſe; but in this piece it is improperly conducted, and carried too far, and we are almoſt ſhown "the father foſter'd at his daughter's breaſt."—Beſides, there is not incident or epiſode enough to ſupport ſuch a ſtory through five tedious acts, even with the everlaſting blowing of trumpets, rattling of drums, and dancing of dirty troops acroſs the ſtage.—The anxiety and affection for Phocion, the huſband, and a priſoner to Dionyſius, is indifference, when compared to that for the father, Evander.

Mrs Siddons's almoſt conſtant appearance, during the performance, kept it up, and in many parts ſhe exhibited the greatneſs of her powers, in a wonderful degree.—In the ſcene with the tyrant Dionyſius, where he wants her to ſend to Phocion to lead off his troops, ſhe is uncommonly great. Her manner of pronouncing theſe words was admirable:

> Think'ſt thou then
> So meanly of my Phocion? Doſt thou deem him
> Poorly wound up to a mere fit of valour,
> To melt away in a weak woman's tear?
> Oh! thou doſt little know him——

Her look, while Philotas is deceiving the tyrant, is uncommonly fine, and ſays more than the genius of the poet could ever have conceived.

On June 11. ſhe played the part of Euphraſia again, for the benefit of the Charity Workhouſe. In this, as in all her ſecond repreſentations, ſhe rather roſe than fell.——Her taking leave of the audience was the moſt "expreſſive ſilence" we ever beheld. It elegantly ſpoke gratitude, reſpect, and affection.

Mrs Siddons played only eleven nights here, excluſive of the charity one, and it is computed ſhe has cleared 1000l. by her trip to Scotland. She ſhared, on an average, 50l. a night for ten nights, and at her benefit ſhe drew 350l. Beſides, the ſubſcription, with which the gentlemen of the city preſented her, amounted to 260l. She likewiſe received from the ſubſcribers a preſent of an elegant ſilver tea-vaſe, with the following inſcription: "As a mark of eſteem for ſuperior genius and unrivalled talents, this vaſe is reſpectfully inſcribed with the name of SIDDONS, Edin. 9th June 1784."

Such was the eagerneſs to ſee this excellent actreſs, that the doors of the playhouſe were always crowded by two o' clock, and one day there were 2557 applications for 630 places.——She ſet out for Dublin on the 15th, where ſhe is engaged to play twenty nights for 1000l.

In the evening of June 4. a number of riotous perſons having aſſembled, with an intention, as is ſuppoſed, of deſtroying Mr Haig's diſtillery at Canonmills, they forcibly broke open the gate; but, meeting with reſiſtance from Mr Haig's ſervants, who were armed in defence of their maſter's property, one man was unfortunately killed upon the ſpot.—From the appearance of the mob, danger being apprehended, the ſheriff of the county and his ſubſtitute attended, by whoſe well-timed exertions the rioters were happily diſperſed without doing any further damage.

The two ſervants who are ſaid to have fired at the man were brought priſoners to Edinburgh by a party of dragoons, and committed to the tolbooth. In their way, Capt. Sykes of the dragoons, and his party, who behaved with the greateſt ſteadineſs, were much haraſſed by the mob, who were greatly enraged againſt the priſoners, both of whom were ſeverely wounded.

On the 7th another mob, much more numerous than the former, aſſembled by beat of drum, armed with ſticks and bludgeons, and proceeded to Canonmills. A ſtrong military guard was placed to protect the works, which prevented the mob from getting acceſs. A number of ſhots were fired by the ſoldiers, by which ſeveral of the mob were wounded. The mob burnt a hay-ſtack at ſome diſtance from the works, and ſome empty barrels, and then diſperſed. Beſides the ſoldiers that were in the works, Gen. Leſlie, Col. Campbell, Mr Sheriff Cockburn, with a large body of military from the Caſtle, with their pieces loaded and bayonets fixed, attended. The mob was told by the Sheriff, that, as this was a ſecond outrage, they would meet with no mercy, if any attempt was made upon private property, or the military in the leaſt annoyed. Accordingly no ſtones were thrown by that part of the mob on the bridge, nor any inſult, but bad language given. At one time they preſſed ſo near the military as to be almoſt touching their bayonets; upon which a number of the ſoldiers were ordered to preſent, and would have been commanded to fire, if the mob had not retired. Upon being diſappointed at Canonmills, they declared their intention of going immediately to the Sheriff's houſe; and a party of them, about ſeventy, did actually proceed till within a little of it; but, upon being told that a detachment of the military had been ſent for its protection, they deſiſted.

The above illegal proceedings were not confined to the neighbourhood of Edinburgh; for the ſame night a great mob aſſembled at Ford, about ten miles from Edinburgh, and attacked the large and extenſive diſtillery belonging to Mr Reid, which they burnt to the ground. The dwelling-houſe and cattle were ſaved by the activity of Mr Reid's ſervants.

Saturday the 19th, the heritors of the county of Edinburgh met in the parliament-houſe, in conſequence of an advertiſement.—Mr Sheriff Cockburn was called to the chair. The Committee appointed by a former meeting gave in reſolutions drawn up by them, which being read over, were unanimouſly agreed to; the ſubſtance of which is as follows.

They declare the utmoſt abhorrence at the late outrages.

That they are determined to exert themſelves to the utmoſt to ſuppreſs the ſpirit of violence, and contempt for authority, which prevails; and that they will do every thing in their power to diſcover, and bring to puniſhment, all thoſe acceſſory to ſuch riots and diſturbances.

That a reward of 10l. be offered for diſcovering offenders.

That from the publication of Meſſ. Haigs, and their oath relative thereto, and the formal requiſition made to the public at large, that evidence ſhould be lodged of the reports and allegations contrary to the affidavit of Meſſ. Haigs, either at the council-chamber, or at the ſheriff-clerk's office, and that nothing of that nature has been condeſcended upon, they are fully ſatisfied, that the ſtories told of Meſſ. Haigs having been in the practice of diſtilling from oats, oat-meal, peaſe, beans, and potatoes, or other roots, is without foundation, falſe, and calumnious.

That, after proper inquiries, they are convinced, that the corn of the growth of this country diſtilled within this county, is but a mere triſle, when compared with that diſtilled from imported grain.

That the deluded rioters are riſking their lives to anſwer the views of ſelf-intereſted perſons, whoſe ſituation in ſociety would render it diſgraceful for them to appear openly as the encouragers of ſuch inſurrections.

That the gentlemen of the county are determined, upon ſuſpicion of any ſuch riots in future, to come forth perſonally, and repel force by force, with their tenants, ſervants, and ſuch ſober and well-diſpoſed ſubjects as ſhall adhere to them, who are always ten to one in number to the unruly and diſorderly.

That they will diſmiſs from their ſervice, and deliver up to juſtice, any ſervant, or other dependent, who ſhall be engaged in any ſuch unlawful proceedings.

That a committee be appointed to confer with the magiſtrates of Edinburgh, with recommendations to exert themſelves in bringing about ſuch aſſociations among the incorporations, as may tend to keep the peace.

That copies of the riot-act be diſtri-

buted

buted amongſt the people, that they may not be ignorant of the danger they run in joining in ſuch riotous proceedings.

Two other meetings of the heritors of Mid-Lothian were held, one at Dalkeith, June 26. another at Muſſelburgh, July 3. both declaring their approbation of the ſteps that had been taken by the heritors at Edinburgh, and expreſſing the utmoſt abhorrence of the late riotous proceedings.

The following paragraph, which appeared in the Edinburgh papers at the time the riots happened, contains the ſubſtance of Mr Haig's affidavit referred to in the reſolutions of the heritors of Mid-Lothian.

It has unhappily taken poſſeſſion of the minds of many people, that all ſorts of grain, wheat, oats, barley, and peaſe, are conſumed at the diſtillery in great quantities; and that even oat-meal and roots, ſuch as potatoes, turnips, and carrots, are made to ſerve the purpoſes of diſtillation; and, conſequently, that the markets are really affected by this ſuppoſed conſumption. Now, the truth is, that no other ſpecies of grain are made uſe of at Canonmills, but barley, rye, and ſometimes ſuch parcels of wheat as happen to receive damage, or are in quality unfit for bread; and that not a grain of oats, peaſe, or a particle of oat-meal, nor any potatoes, carrots, turnips, or other roots, are uſed in this manufactory, in any ſhape.—— With regard to the barley, the markets cannot be affected, becauſe it has been almoſt to a trifle imported into Leith from diſtant places; and ſo very attentive have the Meſſ. Haigs, the proprietors of the diſtillery, been, that they have again and again refuſed to purchaſe the parcels offered to them by ſundry people, of the growth of this country; nay, it is a fact, that 500 bolls have not been conſumed at their works. The wheat that has been uſed, was, to a very trifle, bad grain, of the importation of laſt ſeaſon, purchaſed at low prices. Could a doubt remain about theſe facts, they can be aſcertained by the names and atteſtations of the importers. So far are the proprietors from conſuming roots, that even the cattle and hogs in the diſtillery are not fed with them. The cattle are brought there to conſume the grains or draff; and by that food alone they are fattened for the market. The Meſſ. Haigs have reared a work at great expence, and have at all times a conſiderable ſtock upon the ſpot, which they are conſcious muſt prove of the higheſt advantage to the country and the neighbourhood—a work which gives bread to a great number of people, and returns a large annual ſum to Edinburgh. They are frequently importing great quantities of grain, which would never have come to Scotland, and with the refuſe of which numbers of cattle and of hogs are fattened, and the neceſſaries of human life encreaſed. The diſtillers of London, envious of the Scotch in the ſame trade, are at the preſent moment exerting their utmoſt influence to deprive this country of that valuable branch; and therefore it muſt appear beyond meaſure cruel and impolitic in the people at home to endeavour to ſuppreſs it.—Were the people coolly to reflect, it would evidently occur to them, that the conſumpt of the victual upon the ſpot is leſſened, by the market being ſupplied with ſpirits extracted from imported grain.

His Majeſty's proclamation was iſſued, offering a reward for diſcovering any of the rioters; and ſeveral of the ringleaders have been committed to priſon, in order to ſtand trial before the High Court of Juſticiary.

On Wedneſday, May 19. came on before John Pringle, Eſq; who ſat as judge, by commiſſion, in abſence of Archibald Cockburn, Eſq; Judge-Admiral of Scotland, the trial of John M'Iver and Archibald M'Callum, merchants in Greenock, accuſed of wilfully and feloniouſly ſinking of ſhips, or adviſing and directing others ſo to do, in order to defraud the underwriters. The firſt point in queſtion was, ſuppoſing the priſoners to be found guilty, whether they were liable, as in England, to be capitally convicted, or liable only to an arbitrary puniſhment. On the part of the priſoners, it was argued, that the ſtatutes of the 4th and 11th of Geo. I. (upon which, and alſo upon the common law, the priſoners were indicted), were ſtatutes confined to England, and had been ſo adjudged, in the year 1751, by a ſolemn deciſion of a very reſpectable judge, [Philp], and had ever ſince been acquieſced in by invariable conſent. On the other hand, it was contended, that the ſtatutes above mentioned were general ſtatutes, without limitation, and that it would be abſurd to ſuppoſe, that the legiſlature would confine the capital puniſhment of ſuch enormous crimes to one part of the kingdom, and not extend it to the other; that the deciſion in the

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caſe above cited, being the deciſion of one ſingle judge, however reſpectable, could never conſtitute law; and that, conſequently, the priſoners were within the penalties of the fore-mentioned ſtatutes. The judge, on account of the great importance of the doctrines and authorities laid down on both ſides, ordered each party to give in informations, and adjourned the court to June 14. The court accordingly met on the 14th; when the judge pronounced a very long interlocutor upon the ſubject, finding, That the clauſes of the acts, 4th and 11th Geo. I. *do extend to Scotland*: In reſpect it appears, that the brigantine Endeavour was taken by an American privateer before the alledged intention of deſtroying her was effected, found, That the offence did not fall within either of the ſtatutes; but found the facts and circumſtances relevant, at common law, to infer an arbitrary puniſhment, in ſo far as reſpects the ſteps taken to defraud the underwriters, by boring holes in the bottom of the veſſel, or accompliſhed, by defrauding them or the revenue by re-landing the goods. And having conſidered the ſecond branch of the indictment, and the facts charged againſt Archibald M'Callum, in reſpect it is not ſet forth in the indictment, that the underwriters ſuffered prejudice by the actual payment of the ſums ſubſcribed by them, or that any merchant or merchants other than the pannel, Archibald M'Callum, himſelf, ſuffered by the loſs of their goods, contrary to the ſtatute of the 4th Geo. I. found, That this branch of the indictment muſt reſt upon the ſtatute of the 11th Geo. I. and is relevant to infer the pains of law, and confiſcation of goods, againſt Archibald M'Callum, in ſo far as the charge therein is founded upon the deſtroying of the brigantine New York. ——The proſecutor for the Crown, previous to proceeding in the trial, reſtricted the indictment, as to M'Callum, likewiſe to an arbitrary puniſhment. The trial then proceeded; and next day the jury returned their verdict, all in one voice finding the pannels John M'Iver and Archibald M'Callum guilty as far as regards the brigantine Endeavour; and they all in one voice found the charge not proven againſt M'Callum as far as regards the brigantine New York. The judge then pronounced their ſentence, which is, That they ſhall ſtand in the pillory at Glaſgow, July 28. for the ſpace of one hour, with a rope about each of their necks, and bare-headed, with the following label affixed to their breaſts: "Here ſtand John M'Iver and Archibald M'Callum, infamous perſons, who did wickedly procure holes to be bored in the ſhip Endeavour, in order to ſink the ſame, and thereby to defraud the underwriters." They are alſo baniſhed Scotland for life: and, in caſe of their return, to be impriſoned for one year, and to be publicly whipped on the firſt Wedneſday of every month during the ſaid impriſonment.

MARRIAGES.

June 9. At London, Lord Salton, to Miſs Fraſer, daughter of Simon Fraſer, Eſq; of Coleman-ſtreet, London

18. Sir William Hamilton of Weſtport, Bt, to Miſs Johnſton, daughter of the deceaſed Alexander Johnſton of Straiton

24. At Edinburgh, Robert Brown of Milnhead, Eſq; to Miſs Helen Butter, daughter of the deceaſed Mr Charles Butter merchant in Edinburgh.

26. At Stanſtill, in the county of Caithneſs, Benjamin Williamſon, Eſq; younger of Bannetkirk, to Miſs Janet Sinclair, ſecond daughter to James Sinclair of Harpſdale, Eſq; and one of the coheireſſes of Southdun.

BIRTH.

June 10. At Edinburgh, the Lady of Neil Ferguſſon, Eſq; Advocate, of a daughter.

DEATHS.

Sept. 1783. At Madura in India, Mr David Wemyſs, ſecond ſon of the Hon. Mr Wemyſs of Wemyſs, an officer in the Eaſt-India Company's ſervice.

June 1784. At Wilxcom, Somerſetſhire, Mr Francis Hill, aged 108. He had three brothers, who lived, the firſt to 96, the ſecond to 98, and the third to 95.

6. At Edinburgh Daniel Mackay, Eſq; ſon to Colonel Æneas Mackay.

9. At Newark in Orkney, Mrs Margaret Fairholm, widow of David Covingtrie of Newark, Eſq;

10. At Healthfield, Ireland, Lt-Col. William Agnew, late of the 24th regiment.

10. At Dunboig, Mrs Balfour of Dunboig.

11. At Edinburgh, Robert Robertſon writer to the ſignet.

At Budley, Salterton, Devonſhire, the Hon. David Stewart, a lieutenant in the navy, and brother to the Earl of Moray.

13. At Edinburgh, Miſs Jean-Gordon Auſtin, youngeſt daughter of the deceaſed Dr Adam Auſtin, phyſician in Edinburgh.

13. At Saddle Caſtle, Colonel Donald Campbell of Glenfaddle, late in the ſervice of the Eaſt-India Company.

13. At Argaty, Perthſhire, George Home Stewart

Stewart of Argaty, in the 77th year of his age.

15 At London, Sir Barnard Turner, Kt, in his 48th year, in conſequence of an accident on his return to town from Tottenham on the Saturday evening before, where he had been ſpending the day with ſome friends at the George and Vulture. His horſe ſuddenly taking fright, ran with him violently againſt a poſt chaiſe, one of the ſhafts of which piercing the fleſh of his thigh, laid bare the bone in a moſt dreadful manner, and broke his leg juſt below the knee. Mr Grindal, ſurgeon, who had been of the party, happened to be near, and by immediate application of bandages, ſuch as could be contrived and inſtantly procured, prevented his bleeding to death upon the ſpot. With great difficulty, after taking off a door of Mr Grindal's carriage, he was laid at the bottom of it, againſt the other door, his ſon ſitting in it, and Mr Grindal riding behind, and conveyed to his houſe at Paul's Wharf, where he was attended by Dr Smith, and three ſurgeons, who from the firſt entertained very ſlight hopes of his recovery, the laceration of the thigh preventing the ſetting the leg.—His anceſtors lived upon a ſmall eſtate at Therfield, near Royſton, Herts, in a direct line, for a period of more than 400 years, where he was born, in the year 1736. Sir Barnard was choſen Alderman of Cordwainers Ward in the year 1781, on the death of Alderman Hayley; elected ſheriff of the city of London and county of Middleſex on Midſummer-day 1783; and was knighted on carrying up the city addreſs in March laſt. On Saturday the 19th his remains were carried in great military pomp from his houſe at Paul's Wharf, for interment at Therfield. The proceſſion was intended to have moved at ten o'clock; but the body, from ſome ſtrange altercation, was detained near two hours before matters could be adjuſted. A little before twelve, however, the coffin was put into a hearſe and ſix horſes, followed by a mourning coach and four, the ſtate chariot of the deceaſed, and the chariot of Sheriff Skinner, in which was that gentleman and Mr Ecton, with four other carriages, and about a dozen empty coaches and four in proceſſion. They came down Thames-ſtreet into Chatham-ſquare, at the foot of Blackfriars-bridge, where the Artillery Company and Foot Aſſociation (of which he was major-commandant) waited for [illegible], and proceeded at the head of the proceſſion in their regimentals, with crapes round their arms, their guns inverted, and their colours, drums, fifes, &c. decorated with crape, the muſic playing the 104th pſalm. In this form the proceſſion marched through the city, the ſhops being ſhut, and the bells tolling, amidſt an innumerable crowd of ſpectators, to Shoreditch, where they were joined by the Horſe Aſſociation (his charger being led, with his hat, ſword, the boots reverſed, &c.).—Nothing ſeems to have puzzled the world more than the delay of this proceſſion. The reports which conjecture only ſpread, have been as wild as various: The truth, as we are informed, was, that a creditor, to a large amount, having no bond or other ſecurity, took this ſtep in perſon, unattended by any officer, in hopes of obtaining a ſecurity from ſome of the friends of the deceaſed there aſſembled; and that the altercation on this circumſtance was the ſole cauſe of the delay; and the creditor at laſt retired unſatisfied. One of the friends of Sir Barnard, we are aſſured, drew his ſword on this occaſion; and declared, that he would defend the body of the deceaſed with his own life.

15 At Lakehead, Dumfries-ſhire, Thomas Edgar, aged 108. He read for many years with ſpectacles; but about twenty years ago, his ſight came to him to that degree, that, ever ſince, he read the ſmalleſt print without them.

15. At Edinburgh, in the 77th year of his age, the Rt Rev. Mr William Falconer. He held the higheſt office in the Epiſcopal Church of Scotland for forty-three years.

16. At Edinburgh, Miſs Ann Sands, daughter of the deceaſed William Sands bookſeller, and late one of the magiſtrates of that city.

17. At Edinburgh, John Brown of Knockmarlock, Eſq; late Major in the 60th reg.

17. At Edinburgh, Thomas Fyers, overſeer of the King's works in Scotland.

23. At Falkirk, Mr Andrew Henderſon merchant in Edinburgh.

24. At Edinburgh, Mr Hugh Cairncroſs, only ſon of Mr George Cairncroſs writer in Edinburgh.

26. At Bath, John Sinclair, Eſq; of Freſwick.

26. At Edinburgh, Mr Roderick Macleod writer to the ſignet.

28. At Edinburgh, Mrs Hamilton, widow of Major Thomas Hamilton of Olive-ſtob.

30. At Edinburgh, Mr John Welſh, goldſmith, and Captain of the tolbooth of that city.

PREFERMENTS.

From the London Gazette.

The King has been pleaſed,

April 26. to grant to the Rt Hon. John Foſter the office of Chancellor of the Court of Exchequer in Ireland.

May 8. to grant to Thomas Lock, Eſq; (Norroy King of Arms), the office of Clarenceux King of Arms, and Principal Herald of the ſouth, eaſt, and weſt parts of England.

11. to grant the dignities of Viſcount and Earl of the kingdom of Great Britain to George Lord Abergavenny, and the heirs male of his body lawfully begotten, by the name, ſtyle, and title of Viſcount Nevill, of Birling, in the county of Kent, and Earl of Abergavenny, in the county of Monmouth.

to

to grant the dignity of an Earl of Great Britain to George Townſhend, Baron de Ferrars of Chartley; Baron Bourchier, Louvaine, Baſſet and Compton, and the heirs male of his body lawfully begotten, by the title of Earl of the county of Leiceſter.

to grant the dignity of an Earl of Great Britain to Henry Lord Paget, and the heirs male of his body lawfully begotten, by the title of Earl of Uxbridge, in the county of Middleſex.

to grant the dignities of Baron, Viſcount, and Earl of Great Britain to Sir James Lowther, Bt. and the heirs male of his body lawfully begotten, by the title of Baron Lowther of Lowther, in the county of Weſtmoreland, Baron of the barony of Kendal in the ſaid county, and baron of the barony of Burgh, in the county of Cumberland, Viſcount Lonſdale and Viſcount Lowther, and Earl of Lonſdale.

to grant the dignity of a Baron of Great Britain to Thomas Viſcount Bulkeley, of the kingdom of Ireland, and the heirs male of his body lawfully begotten, by the title of Lord Bulkeley, Baron of Beaumaris, in the county of Angleſey

to grant the like dignity of Baron of Great Britain to the ſeveral gentlemen following, and the reſpective heirs male of their bodies lawfully begotten, by the titles undermentioned, viz

Sir Thomas Egerton, of Heaton Houſe, in the county palatine of Lancaſter, Bt, Baron Grey de Wilton, in the county of Hereford.

Sir Charles Cocks, of Caſtleditch, in the county of Hereford, Bt, Lord Sommers, Baron of Evetham, in the county of Worceſter.

John Parker, of Saltram, in the county of Devon, Eſq; Baron Boringdon, of Boringdon, in the ſaid county

Noel Hill, Eſq; Baron Berwick, of Attingham, in the county of Salop; and

James Dutton, Eſq; Lord Sherborne, Baron of Sherborne, in the county of Glouceſter.

to order letters patent under the great ſeal of Ireland, for the tranſlation of Dr William Cecil Pery, Biſhop of Killala, in that kingdom, to the biſhoprick of Limerick, void by the death of Dr William Gore.

to order like letters patent for conſtituting the Rt Hon. John Scott, Prime Serjeant, to be Chief Juſtice of the Court of King's Bench in the ſaid kingdom.

Alſo to order like letters patent, containing his grant of the dignity of a Baron of Ireland to the ſaid John Scott, and the heirs male of his body lawfully begotten, by the title of Baron Earlsfort of Miſſon-Earl, in the county of Tipperary.

18. to appoint Henry Reveley, Eſq; to be one of the Commiſſioners of Exciſe, in the room of Charles Garth, Eſq; deceaſed.

20. grant to George Harriſon, Eſq; (Windſor Herald) the office of Norroy King of Arms, and Principal Herald of the north parts of England.

28. to confer the honour of Knighthood on Charles Booth, Eſq; high ſheriff of the county of Kent.

13 The Queen has been pleaſed to appoint Lt-Col. Charles Rooke to be one of the Gentlemen Uſhers, Quarter Waiters, to her Majeſty, in the room of Henry Revely, Eſq;

June. 2. to confer the honour of Knighthood on Richard King, Eſq; late a commodore in the fleet employed in the Eaſt Indies.

5. to conſtitute Francis Townſhend, Eſq; Rouge Croix Purſuivant of Arms, to be Windſor Herald of Arms, in the room of George Harriſon, Eſq; promoted.

The Prince of Wales has been pleaſed to appoint, *June* 19. Lord Viſc. St Aſaph to be one of the Gentlemen of his Bed-chamber.

From other papers.

James Urquhart, Eſq; Advocate, is appointed Sheriff depute of Banff-ſhire, on the reſignation of Keith Urquhart, Eſq; of Meldrum.

29. The Hon. Alexander Gordon preſented to the Court of Seſſion the King's letter, appointing him one of the Lords of Council and Seſſion, in the room of Lord Weſthall, deceaſed —He has taken the title of *Lord Rockville.*

Prices of grain at Haddington, July 16.

	Beſt.	*Second.*	*Third.*
Wheat,	23s. 0d.	21s. 6d.	20s. 0d.
Bear,	21s. 0d.	20s. 0d.	19s. 0d.
Oats,	18s. 0d.	16s. 0d.	14s. 0d.
Peaſe,	16s. 6d.	15s. 6d.	14s. 6d.

Edinburgh, July 6. 1784. Oat-meal, 1s. 2d. Bear-meal, 9d. Peaſe-meal, 9d.

Burials in the Grayfriars church-yard in June

Males 37, Females 36 } 73. Increaſed 5.

Age.			N°	Diſeaſes, &c.	N°
Under		2	21	Aged —	8
Between	2 &	5	14	Apoplexy —	1
	5 &	10	6	Bowelhive —	2
	10 &	20	4	Chincough —	2
	20 &	30	3	Conſumption —	20
	30 &	40	4	Fever —	8
	40 &	50	3	Meaſels —	3
	50 &	60	6	Smallpox —	20
	60 &	70	4	Stillborn —	2
	70 &	80	6	Suddenly —	1
	80 &	90	2	Teething —	6
	90 &	100	0		

PRICES OF STOCKS, June 15.

Bank Stock, 115 1 half.
3 per cent. red. 58 1 4th.
3 per cent. Conſ. 58 7 8ths a 59.
4 per cent Conſ. 75 1 8th.
India ſtock, 119 cum div.
India bonds, 16 s. diſc.
Navy Bills, 16 diſc.